

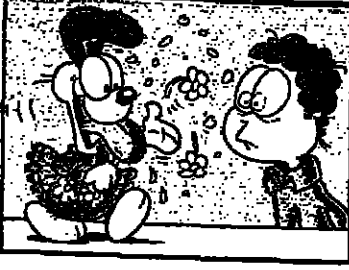
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Israeli fusion



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Indians take 2-1 lead

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OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Moshe Ya'alon expresses his condolences on Friday to Yair Adato, brother of slain Cpl. Michal Adato. (IDF Spokesman)

Arafat cautious over Sharon FM nod

By DANNA HARMAN, STEVE RODAN, and MOHAMMED NAJIB

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat reacted cautiously to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's announcement of National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon's appointment as foreign minister on Friday.

"This is a pure interior Israeli affair," said Arafat, speaking in Helsinki later in the day. "We don't want to interfere."

Netanyahu made the long-expected announcement at a morning press conference. "Sharon is the man best suited to this position," said the prime minister.

"He has vast experience, and he brings a wealth of experience and

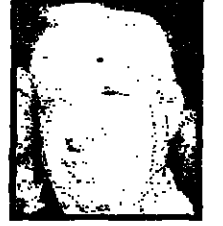
creativity... he has known the pains of war, and has also played an important role in harvesting the fruits of peace... I can think of no one better qualified to help me and the government in bringing peace with security to the State of Israel."

The appointment must be

approved by the cabinet on Tuesday; it has already been announced to the US and the Palestinian Authority.

Echoing Arafat's position, most Palestinians were cautious in their reaction to the appointment, recalling Sharon's hawkish past, but expressing hope he would help

the government carry through its pledge to withdraw from the West Bank. "He [Sharon] has a very poor image among the Palestinian public," said PA International Cooperation and Planning Minister Nabil Shaath. "He is identified with the massacres of Sabra and Shatila... but we will deal with him as any foreign minister... and ask him to respect these [Oslo] accords."



Ariel Sharon (Isaac Harari)

Expected but confusing

ANALYSIS

By SARAH HONIG

The appointment of Ariel Sharon as foreign minister came

as no surprise, but it still managed to confound accepted wisdom.

The assumption was that it would come after the second redeployment had been implemented. It came before.

See ANALYSIS, Page 7

See SHARON, Page 7

Soldier stabbed to death in Jordan Valley

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Cpl. Michal Adato, 19, was stabbed to death by a Palestinian man on Friday morning, minutes after getting off a bus some 300 meters from her home in the settlement of Tomer in the Jordan Valley.

Adato was returning home to spend the weekend with her family when she was allegedly attacked by Imad Omar Kamil, 34, from the village of Kabatya in Samaria. He was shot in the leg by a passing soldier as he tried to flee the scene and was captured.

Police said that Kamil stabbed Adato repeatedly with a large, wooden-handled kitchen knife with a 12cm blade until she collapsed at the roadside at around 10:30 a.m., dying shortly after from her wounds.

Adato will be buried at 11:30 this morning in a military funeral at the regional cemetery adjoining the Jordan Valley IDF Memorial. After her death she was promoted to second-lieutenant.



Cpl. Michal Adato (IDF Spokesman)

who shot Kamil, said he "was coming from the north, about a kilometer away from the junction, when a car driven by a Palestinian man flashed its lights to alert us and he said there had been a stabbing in the area of Petzael."

"Arriving near the village I noticed an IDF soldier racing after a Palestinian man. About 15 meters away from the suspect I called on him to stop, firing two shots in the air. Then I saw he had a knife."

Sgt.-Maj. A. said he pursued the suspect toward the entrance of the village and shot a third time, hitting him in the leg. Kamil bent over, but then stood up still holding his knife. A shot him again, hitting him in the other leg. As Kamil fell to the ground, he raced over to him and took his knife.

Kamil was admitted in good condition to Hadassah-University Hospital in Ein Kerem, where he is being held under guard.

See ADATO, Page 2

Peretz seeks devaluation compensation

Jerusalem Post Staff

Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz said last night that he will ask Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman to compensate workers for salary erosion following last week's depreciation of the shekel.

The shekel recovered some of its losses on Friday, in what dealers described as a technical correction following its loss of some 11% against the dollar since the beginning of the month.

The representative rate for the dollar was set Friday at NIS 4.26,

representing a 1.183% increase. The shekel also gained 1.9% against the currency basket, which was fixed at 4.7008. Against the mark, the shekel rose 3.24% to 2.6124%.

The Bank of Israel will not set a representative rate today and there will be no trading on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. Dealers are waiting for the opening of financial markets on Tuesday. Economists expect the markets to remain nervous and volatile in coming days.

Meanwhile, the dollar slid further. Friday against the Japanese yen,

capping a week that saw the US currency suffer its worst declines against the in a quarter century.

The stunning fall in the value of the dollar - off nearly 14 percent for the week as a whole - was fueled largely by panicky hedge funds moving to dump dollars in uncertain markets.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 167.61 points - or by 2.2 percent - to 7,899.52, pushing into positive territory for the week and just shy of this year's starting point, 7,908.25.

Full stories, Page 13

Israel over San Marino

The national soccer team beat San Marino 5-0 in a European championship qualifying match at night to put Israel atop Group 6. Goals from Haim Revivo, Alon Lizrabi (2), Avi Nimni and Eyalan Grayeb led Israel to their perfect win.

Full story, Page 20

SIMHAT TORAH

	Jerusalem	Tel Aviv	Bat Yam
4:36	4:36	4:51	4:42
5:48	5:48	5:49	5:48

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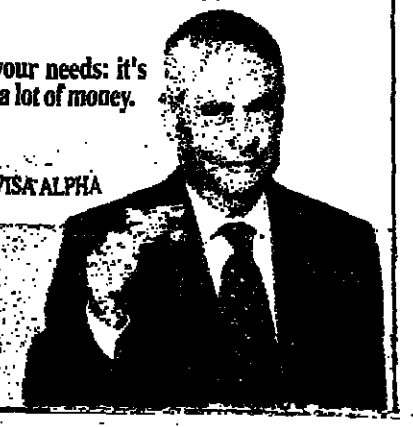
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NEWS

in brief

Two lightly hurt near Umm el-Fahm

Two people were lightly injured when stones were thrown at vehicles traveling along the Nahal Iron highway near the Umm el-Fahm intersection yesterday. The police spokesman for the Ha'Ammakim district said that a few windshields and side windows were smashed when stones hit two buses and three cars. Two people were injured by glass shards, the spokesman said. The incidents followed a series of arson attacks on woodlands and JNF forests in the Wadi Ara region on Friday and yesterday. The setting of the fires was apparently linked to rioting in the same area the previous week. The riots came after police evicted demonstrators from a tent they pitched on 520 dunams of Arab-owned land, protesting its annexation to an existing IDF firing zone. After the eviction, police declared the area a closed military zone. Police reportedly detained a suspect in connection with the weekend fires which were extinguished by the fire brigade and JNF wardens. *David Rudge*

Fire threatens Mt. Carmel village

Light planes were brought in to help douse a blaze which broke out yesterday near Kerem Mahara on Mt. Carmel and at one stage threatened homes in the village. A number of people were evacuated from the area until firemen, aided by residents, managed to bring the fire under control. There were no casualties and no property was damaged, although several hundred dunams of forest and natural brushland were destroyed. *David Rudge*

Man stabbed to death in Haifa

A spare parts dealer from Kiryat Haim was stabbed to death at his store in Haifa on Friday. Police investigators believe the motive was a business dispute. The police have no suspects at this stage. Several workers were taken for questioning. *Itim*

Motorcyclist dies in crash

A motorcyclist was killed yesterday when he swerved out of his lane and hit an oncoming military vehicle on the Elyakim-Daliat al-Carmel road. Police are investigating the circumstances of the accident and have not yet released the victim's name. *Itim*

Infiltrators damage Vered Yeriho property

Palestinian infiltrators entered the fields of Vered Yeriho on Friday night and caused thousands of shekels of damage to hot-houses, vineyards and a water pipe, the Megilot Regional Council said. IDF trackers called to the scene discovered footprints leading toward Jericho. Vered Yeriho has filed a complaint with police over the trespass. Council Head Mordechai Ra'an sent a telegram to Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai demanding that he beef up the number of troops in the area, especially in light of what he termed the recent deterioration of the security situation in the Jordan Valley. Residents say that infiltrators have broken into Vered Yeriho six times during the past year. *Itim*

ADATO

Continued from Page 1

Following Kamil's capture, the IDF imposed a curfew on Petzai, which is located in Area C, Palestinian sources said. At the same time, IDF troops raided Kamil's home in Kabatya.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called the attack "a vicious and abominable murder" and said Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat had conveyed a message to him condemning it. Netanyahu, who said the attacker came from a PA-controlled area, reiterated that any further withdrawal from the West Bank would depend on Arafat's cracking down on terrorism.

PA sources said Arafat called Netanyahu from Moscow, where he was meeting with Russian President Boris Yeltsin and other leaders.

PA International Cooperation and Planning Minister Nabil Shaath echoed Arafat's condemnation. "We reject any killing," he said. "The peace process is the best answer for such an incident." Shaath, however, added that 37 Palestinians have been killed by IDF soldiers and Jewish settlers over the past year, while seven Israelis were slain by Palestinians during the same period.

PA sources said Kamil has been suffering from a "psychosis" since 1988 and had been admitted to Bethlehem Mental Hospital in 1995 and treated in Jordan this year. He was reportedly on his way to visit his parents in Jericho at the time of the attack.

The attack shocked Jordan Valley residents, who consider the area unproblematic. The Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza called on the IDF to destroy Kamil's home, declaring that Israel cannot rely on Arafat to combat terror. Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said that a large terrorist infrastructure still remains in PA-controlled areas. "The PA should look themselves in the mirror and act to destroy the terrorist infrastructure," he said.

As Kamil stood over Adato's body, Torner resident Moshe Zar-Aviv arrived at the scene. Though he was weaponless, he charged at

Kamil and chased him away. "The man stood over the body, holding a knife, and turned towards me," said Zar-Aviv. "I moved toward him, as if to push him away. I didn't have a weapon and he fled to the field on the other side of the road. I turned back to Michael to see if I could help and IDF soldiers arrived and chased the suspect - shot him in the legs and captured him."

Shocked by the news of the attack, residents of the 70-family community flocked to Adato's home to comfort her parents, Ruth and Moti, and their children Yair, 21, Boaz, 17, and Yoav, 10. The family had just received an invitation to attend Michael's graduation from Officers' training course this Thursday.

Yair, in a choked voice, described Michael as a perfectionist who wanted to do everything and live life to its full. Prior to her military service, she had volunteered as a counselor in a youth movement for a year. In the army she worked as a teacher dealing with youth from broken homes.

At the time of the attack, Yair said, everyone except Moti was home, as his mother marked the 25th anniversary of the death of her first husband, Immanuel, in the Yom Kippur War. "My mother or someone always met Michael at the junction and drove her home. On Friday, for some reason, Michael didn't call; perhaps her cellphone wasn't working. She had often told us that she didn't like waiting alone at the junction and that's why my mother usually met her."

Ruth Adato works in the Jordan Valley Regional Council as an assistant to Council Head David Levy, who said: "They say the terrorist from Kabatya was visiting his parents in Jericho. Both areas are under the jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority; the IDF is helpless. Terrorists move freely and murder innocent people, because they know no one will stop them. Because of the current situation, the Palestinian Police does nothing and the IDF forces are rendered helpless, unable to enter the PA controlled areas."

Steve Rodan and Mohammed Najib contributed to this report.

Syria slams Sharon appointment

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — Ariel Sharon's appointment as the Israeli foreign minister serves as "the bullet of mercy" for the Middle East peace process, an official Syrian newspaper said yesterday.

In Beirut, Lebanese newspapers denounced the appointment as a "disaster" for peace.

Many Arabs know Sharon for his role in Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon. An Israeli commission looking into the invasion found him indirectly responsible for the massacre of hundreds of Palestinian refugees by pro-Israeli Christian Lebanese militiamen at two Beirut camps.

The appointment "is a bullet of mercy to

the [peace] process, which has stopped on all tracks," said *Tishrin* newspaper, which often speaks for the Syrian government.

It said Netanyahu has sent "a clear message to all those who are deluding themselves" into thinking that Israel will change its anti-peace stand.

Syrian-Israeli peace talks broke off more than two years ago.

Syria and the previous Israeli government had reached an informal agreement on a full withdrawal from the Golan Heights, which Israel captured from Syria in 1967. But Netanyahu's government rejected that agreement, saying it was never completed.

Lebanon's peace talks with Israel also have been suspended for more than two years pending progress in Syrian-Israeli negotiations.

Lebanese newspapers yesterday expressed shock at the appointment of Sharon as Israel's foreign minister.

"The mere announcement that he will lead the negotiations is tantamount to disaster," said the independent *an-Nahar* newspaper in a front page editorial called "Bibi and the bulldozer."

An-Nahar newspaper quoted Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri as saying: Sharon's appointment makes Lebanon and

most world states ask: "Does the Israeli government really want peace as it is trying to delude the world?"

An-Nahar's columnist, Sahar Baasiri, wrote: "The man is a hero of Arab defeats; he is the firmest believer in the expansion of the land of Israel and in resolving the Palestinian problem at the expense of Jordan. He is a liar," Baasiri wrote.

The conservative *Ad-Diyar* newspaper said in a front-page comment: "The history of Ariel Sharon is known. He has called for burning Beirut, annexing the Golan, occupying the [West] Bank and slaughtering and displacing the Arabs everywhere."



Palestinians watch an Israeli military vehicle drive by during a curfew in Hebron yesterday. Sporadic clashes broke out later in the day when the curfew was lifted for several hours. (Reuters)

IDF kills 2 gunmen in zone

By DAVID RUDGE

Two gunmen, believed to be from Hizbullah, were killed in a clash with IDF troops in the north-eastern sector of the security zone yesterday. The IDF soldiers suffered no casualties.

The army spokesman said that an IDF unit was on patrol near the village of Rehav when they spotted the two-man terrorist squad. The troops opened fire, killing the gunmen, who had apparently intended to lay roadside bombs along routes used by the IDF and SLA in the security zone. Several explosive devices were found alongside the gunmen's bodies, as well as a large quantity of weapons.

Security sources said that the deaths of the two brought to around 45 the number of gunmen who have been killed by the IDF and SLA since the beginning of the year. Fourteen IDF soldiers have been killed in the same period in south Lebanon, many of them in roadside bomb attacks.

The Hizbullah has recently intensified its roadside bomb operations against IDF and SLA troops in the security zone and had increased its attacks on SLA soldiers in the Christian Jezzine enclave north of the zone.

Two soldiers, St-Sgt. Zohar Doron, 21, from Kibbutz Lahav in the south, and St-Sgt. Magen Friedman, 24, of Moshav Nir Etzion on Mt. Carmel, were killed and six others wounded in a roadside bomb attack in the Druse-populated Hatzbiyeh village last Monday.

On that occasion, the perpetrators used an armor-piercing hollow-charge device and an anti-personnel explosive charge designed to cause maximum casualties.

The deaths of the two soldiers prompted a demonstration by the Four Mothers movement which has mounted a public campaign for an IDF withdrawal from south Lebanon.

Around 30 members of the movement staged a demonstration outside the auditorium in Haifa's Central Carmel district last night, where the main events in the annual Haifa Film Festival are taking place.

The demonstrators issued a personal call to Ariel Sharon to help bring about a solution to the Lebanon problem.

"It was Arik Sharon as defense minister who took Israel into Lebanon. We are now calling on him as foreign minister to help pull us out of the quagmire there," Four Mothers activist Masha Sheindorf said.

Settlers, journalists clash in Yitzhar

By MARGOT DUBKEVITCH

Israeli Police were forced to intervene yesterday when a television crew accompanied by Palestinians claimed they were attacked by residents of the settlement Yitzhar.

Judea and Samaria Police Spokesman Opher Sivan said that police and IDF forces arrived at the scene after the crew called for assistance. Sivan said that the journalists said they were filming a documentary on disputed land when settlers tried to take their cameras away. Sivan said that the crew also claimed that shots were fired at them, and added that police were investigating. He did not identify the crew.

Yitzhar settlers, however, said they plan to file a complaint against a reporter whom they claim was trespassing on their land. The settlers called very serious the fact that the reporter arrived at Yitzhar to compile information on the settlement unannounced and accompanied by Palestinians - especially after two yeshiva students from Yitzhar were murdered by Palestinians earlier this year.

In Hebron yesterday, sporadic clashes were reported after the IDF lifted the curfew to allow locals to stock up on food supplies. The IDF spokesman said that no injuries were reported.

On Friday, however, three shots fired from the Palestinian-controlled sector of Hebron lodged in the outer wall of Beit Hadassah,

one just outside the apartment of Hebron Jewish Community Spokesman Noam Arnon.

"Netanyahu gave the city over to murderers, and no matter how many IDF soldiers are sent here, they won't stop the shots being fired," Arnon said.

The shooting incident followed the funeral of 21-year-old Imjad Jimal Natshe, who died after being shot in the head by a rubber bullet on Thursday. Mourners shouted *Allahu Akbar* (God is great) and some carried weapons.

After the funeral, the Fatah organization called on residents to clash with IDF soldiers and protest the curfew imposed on the city on Yom Kippur, after two hand grenades were thrown at Israeli troops, injuring 13.

Conflicting reports said that 15 to 32 Palestinians were injured in Friday's clashes. The IDF Spokesman said that one IDF officer and a Palestinian were lightly injured by stones. Two journalists, including CNN's Walter Rogers, were also hurt.

In an unrelated incident yesterday, Gush Shalom activists went to Katana to help a Palestinian rebuild a home that was destroyed by the Civil Administration as an illegally constructed building. Gush Shalom said that some 1800 homes have been destroyed by the Civil Administration over the past years and leader Uri Avineri declared "there is no reason to destroy the homes of people who own the land."

Kuwait: Ritter's role is matter between UN, Iraq

By DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON — Kuwait's foreign minister has said that former UN arms inspector Scott Ritter should stand trial if he violated UN Security Council resolutions by enlisting Israel's help to obtain information about Iraq's weapons programs.

In an interview with the London-based *Al-Hayat* on Friday, Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah took exception to the suggestion that the disclosure of links between Israeli intelligence and the UN Special Commission (UNSCOM) in charge of dismantling Iraq might have "embarrassed" Kuwait.

"I regret you ask such a question," he told his interviewer. "This is a matter between the United Nations and Iraq. Scott Ritter [was] a representative of the UN, not of Kuwait."

But he was also critical of Ritter. "As far as I know, the Special Commission is entitled to enlist the help of all countries," Sabah said. "But if he enlisted [Israel's] help in a way that breaches the Security Council resolution, he must stand trial."

Sabah said UNSCOM chairman Richard Butler had told him he "might be forced to refer [Ritter] to a court."

"I have been told this more than once, because Ritter got entangled in several incidents, all of which were improper."

Ritter, who resigned from UNSCOM in August, is meanwhile threatening to sue Butler unless he apologizes for having said that Ritter "broke the law."

"Mr Ritter broke no law that we are aware of," his lawyer noted in an October 7 letter to Butler. "Unless you can tell us otherwise, you owe him a public apology."

"Even though Mr Ritter may be a public figure," the letter added, "such a false statement maliciously repeated can be considered defamatory, and if you wish to avoid assuming personal liability, we require your prompt retraction of your accusation."

The letter, which referred to a remark by Butler in a television interview, followed a letter the UNSCOM chairman recently sent to Ritter reprimanding the former US Marine Corps major for revealing confidential information acquired during seven years' tenure as UN weapons inspector.

Ritter left UNSCOM charging that the UN Security Council, Secretary-General Kofi Annan and the US had all failed to stand up to Baghdad and were party to "an illusion of arms control" in Iraq. He has confirmed that he

obtained intelligence about Iraq from Israel and that he made many trips to Israel as an inspector.

He has also confirmed that his dealings with Israel, which he says were authorized by UNSCOM, have been investigated by the FBI.

Iraq had repeatedly accused him of being a spy for the US and Israel.

Sabah, whose country was liberated from Iraqi occupation by a US-led coalition in 1991, also joined Arab calls for Washington to make amends for its August 20 cruise missile attack on a facility in Khartoum which the US says manufactured chemical weapons precursors but which Sudan insists was a pharmaceuticals factory.

"We would not have wished the United States to hit a target where there are no biological, chemical or other dangerous materials," said Sabah. "As we subsequently understood, these contentions [that there were such materials] were not proven to be true. Even the US press said this was untrue. "The [Kuwaiti] cabinet obviously offered condolences to Sudan over the strike. This means it did not approve of the strike against an area where there was no justification for a strike."

Asked if Washington should apologize and offer compensation for the damage, Sabah declared:

"Anyone who makes a mistake should admit his mistake and apologize. We were the first to ask Iraq to apologize [for its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait].

"Much as we demand of Iraq, we demand of others to recognize their mistakes."

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Holiday air traffic up this year

By SHI DAVIDI

The number of people who will have passed through Ben-Gurion Airport between Erev Yom Kippur and the end of Succot is expected to increase by 12.1 percent over last year.

The Airports Authority says about 500,000 travelers are scheduled for that period, compared to 446,000 people in 1997. The authority said the number of people entering and leaving the country is about equal.

However, fewer tourists are reaching one of the country's leading destinations, Eilat.

from nearly full last year, said Aharon Dekel, chairman of the Eilat Hotels Association.

"The occupancy is lower for three reasons: more Israelis are vacationing abroad; the casino in Jericho is causing us problems; and this is the first year there are no festivals in the city, because the politicians are too busy with the upcoming elections."

In Jerusalem, observers have noted that the succot at some hotels in the city aren't as full as normal. Samuel Goldberg, who is visiting from Antwerp, Belgium, said he has noticed a difference.

"The economic situation in the world is poor and lot's

سكنا س الامل

Shaath rejects PM assertion of final 1% redeployment

By STEVE RODAN
and MOHAMMED NAJIB

Several days before the US-sponsored summit in Washington, the PA remains in sharp disagreement with Israel over IDF redeployment in the West Bank.

PA International Cooperation and Planning Minister Nabil Shaath rejected yesterday an assertion by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that Israel would withdraw from only one percent of the West Bank during the third IDF redeployment.

According to Israel, the Americans have agreed to a final one percent pullback before permanent status talks. The Americans have not confirmed this figure.

"What he says has nothing to do with the agreement," Shaath said. "What he wants to do is to reassure the Israeli people."

Shaath, who met with US envoy Dennis Ross and US Consul John Herbst on Friday night, said that the interim agreement stipulates that the third IDF redeployment must include the remainder of the West Bank under Israeli control. He added that an Israeli-PA-US committee would determine the areas to be included in the third redeployment.

"The US is responsible to guarantee the implementation of what was agreed upon," Shaath said.

Shaath also discussed with Ross and Herbst the issues that will be raised at the summit between President Bill Clinton, Netanyahu and Arafat. Gaza security chief Mohammed Dahlan also attended the meeting.

Earlier, Dahlan met with CIA director George Tenet, who has been meeting with Israeli and Palestinian security officials to discuss the drafting of a security agreement. The PA has insisted that every gesture it agrees to must apply to the Israelis as well, including the transfer of suspects.

Arafat, who arrived in Gaza yesterday after visiting Moscow and Scandinavia, said he cannot predict the results of the Washington meeting.

He said that meetings with the Israelis have so far been

fruitless and added that the summit's success will depend on Israel's response to US bridging proposals.

Arafat added that he has not abandoned his idea of declaring an independent Palestinian state in May 1999, and claimed that the Oslo Accords gave Palestinians the right to do so at the end of the five-year interim period.

Palestinian Legislative Council Speaker Ahmed Qurei warned that the PA would not agree to an

open-ended extension of the interim period past May, saying the delay would merely play into the hands of what he called the Israeli penchant to procrastinate.

Danna Harman adds: Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is scheduled to convene his inner cabinet today and brief them on developments regarding the upcoming summit.

After four days of shuffling between the Palestinians and

Israel, US special envoy Dennis Ross and Assistant Secretary of State Martin Indyk left the region this weekend. No breakthroughs were reported, but a US official said that the sides reached a certain amount of "understanding" on several matters, especially on the opening of the airport in Gaza.

Ross traveled to Cairo and Amman on Friday to brief President Hosni Mubarak and King Hussein on the progress.

Sharon likely to play active role in summit

By HILLEL KUTTLER
and DANNA HARMAN

The White House announced officially on Friday that President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright will be hosting the summit between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, beginning Thursday at the Wye River Conference Center in Maryland.

Members of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's inner cabinet - Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, Trade and Industry Minister Natan Sharansky and Ariel Sharon, the foreign minister designate - will all be joining the prime minister at the summit.

Press secretary Joe Lockhart said in a short statement that "the objective of the summit is to work toward an Israeli-Palestinian agreement on interim issues based on the ideas presented by the United States. This agreement will launch permanent status negotiations which are intended to create a durable and lasting peace between Israelis and Palestinians."

Sharon, who is to be appointed as foreign minister on Tuesday, will attend the meet-

ings in his new capacity, and will most likely sit at the main negotiating table at Wye Plantation. Netanyahu, who has said on several occasions that he is eager to begin the final status talks, plans to put Sharon in charge of those negotiations.

Sharon, one of the staunchest opponents of compromise with the Palestinians, makes no secret of his disapproval of the current second redeployment deal. He has often reiterated his position that in terms of security, Israel cannot afford a 13 percent redeployment. He has said he will vote against any deal involving such a pullback if and when it is brought before the cabinet.

Sharon has also said he will never shake Arafat's hand, which may be problematic in a situation where the sides are trying to build trust and move forward, not to mention the need to "shake on a deal," if it is closed.

A spokesperson from Sharon's office said the minister had no plans of changing his policy regarding shaking hands with Arafat, but added that this would not stand in the way of making a deal, if one is warranted.

Netanyahu is scheduled to

arrive in Washington on Thursday and will immediately go to the White House for a meeting with US President Bill Clinton.

The two will then travel to Wye Plantation, where they will be joined for dinner by the Palestinian delegation. Netanyahu will then spend the weekend at the plantation, where special efforts are being made to accommodate those who keep Shabbat.

In a briefing for reporters, the State Department's deputy spokesman James Foley said that Albright will be present throughout the summit. It is expected that Clinton will open the event and then return to Washington, although he could rejoin the proceedings.

Asked about Sharon's appointment as foreign minister, Foley said only that the Americans "look forward to working with the Israeli Foreign Minister, Ariel Sharon, as we have with his predecessors."

"We plan to work closely with him to advance the cause of peace in the region. We expect to have a productive working relationship with him as we have [had] with his predecessors," Foley said.



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A float on Tel Aviv's Rehov Dizengoff carries some of the more than 30,000 people estimated by police who took part in Friday's 'Parade of Love'. The multitudes danced all day long to music provided by 12 sound trucks, introduced by leading DJs.

(Ariel Shilo/Israel Sun)

Arafat urges international pressure 'to protect peace process'

By ALISTER DOYLE

OSLO (Reuters) - Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat yesterday urged international pressure on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to respect the Middle East peace accords, accusing him of keeping few of his "big promises."

Arafat, on a visit to Norway where the pact was secretly brokered in 1993, also called for a ministerial meeting of donor nations if a summit near Washington with Netanyahu from October 15 ended with a peace breakthrough.

"We need international pressure to protect the peace process, to protect what has been signed," Arafat said, noting that the Israeli-Palestinian deal was also signed by nations including the United States, Russia, Norway, Egypt and Jordan.

"We are not asking for the moon," he said yesterday at a joint news conference at Oslo's Gardermoen airport with Norwegian Prime Minister Kjell Magne Bondevik and Foreign Minister Knut Vollebaek.

"This is not a bilateral agree-

ment. It is an international agreement... We are not talking about sanctions (on Israel), we are talking about pressure," he said.

Arafat said that Netanyahu "used to give big promises but (is) implementing very few."

Bondevik, whose country has chaired a group of donor nations, said he backed Arafat's call for a ministerial meeting of donor countries if the summit led to a breakthrough.

Arafat arrived in the Norwegian capital late Friday after visits to Finland and Russia. He was due to return to Gaza yesterday before heading to the US for the summit.

He declined to estimate the summit's chances of success.

"We hope to achieve something concrete to protect the peace process and to push the peace process," he said.

The Palestinians accuse Israel of stalling on troop withdrawals and of building new settlements in violation of the accords. Israel says that Arafat has failed to crack down sufficiently on anti-Israel guerrillas.

On Friday, the Palestinian leader

said in Helsinki that he had invited Russia, the European Union and some Arab countries to attend next week's US-sponsored summit.

Asked if he wanted Russian President Boris Yeltsin to sit at the summit's table along with its host, US President Bill Clinton, Arafat said: "Yeltsin will not be there, but I hope he will send a representative to attend the negotiations."

He mentioned Egypt, a key mediator between Israel and the Palestinians, as one Arab country that should take part in the summit.

At the core of US compromise ideas for the summit is a proposal that Israel withdraw its troops from a further 13 percent of the West Bank in return for concrete steps by the Palestinian Authority to crack down on Moslem militants who oppose the Oslo Accords.

Arafat seemed to suggest Friday that he was ready to accept such a deal and that the ball was now in Netanyahu's court.

Asked what were the chances of a breakthrough, he said: "We have to wait and see how they (Israel) react to the US initiative."

Republicans press Clinton to oppose Palestinian state

By HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON - House Republicans introduced a resolution Friday that calls on President Clinton to assert that he opposes a Palestinian declaration of statehood.

Administration officials in recent months have been outspokenly opposed to what they have called a "unilateral" Palestinian declaration, saying that it endangers the peace process. Clinton himself has been less firm, saying this week that statehood must be negotiated by the Israelis and Palestinians as part of a final-status agreement.

Among the lead sponsors of the resolution is Tom DeLay, who, as the House whip, is the third-ranking Republican in the chamber.

One of only two Democrats among the 23 sponsors is Charles Schumer, a long-time supporter of Israel who is running for the Senate against incumbent Alfonse D'Amato. D'Amato is a sponsor of the Senate version of the resolution.

A Republican source said the resolution was crafted carefully in order not to appear partisan and therefore did not mention First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's statements earlier in the year in support of a Palestinian state.

Nevertheless, Democrats who earlier last week intended to support the resolution have changed their minds, perhaps so they can accuse Republicans of politicizing the issue, he said.

Speaking to reporters in the Capitol on Friday, DeLay, however, referred to Mrs. Clinton's contro-

versial statements in May, saying they put "US policy on this issue in grave doubt."

"The president has since failed to stand up strong and in strong words reiterate the United States' long-standing policy that it will not recognize or condone the unilateral declaration or the creation of an independent Palestinian state," he added. "This is a very dangerous message that is not being sent to the world and, particularly, to the Middle East."

The sponsors were hoping to bring the resolution to a vote this weekend before the 105th Congress concludes tomorrow.

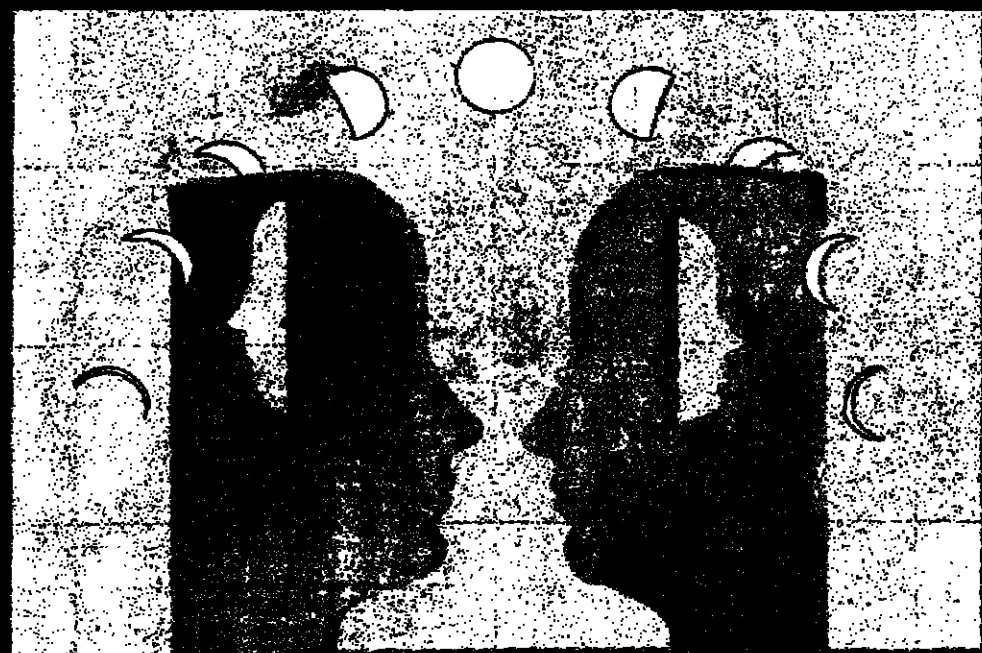
The aim, the source said, is to impress on the Palestinian Authority that it will not "be able to move forward with declaring a Palestinian state without making a big error and severely impairing their relations with the US."

The strongest demands the resolution makes are contained in the final clauses, when it states that the President "must reaffirm" that declaring a Palestinian state would be "a grievous violation of the Oslo Accords, would seriously impede any possibility of advancing the peace process, and would have severe negative consequences for Palestinian relations with the United States."

It calls on Clinton to "publicly and unequivocally state that the United States will actively oppose such a unilateral declaration and will not extend recognition to any unilaterally declared Palestinian state."

However, even if it is passed, the resolution does not have the force of law. It merely expresses the "sense of the Congress" on the issue.

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Shara says Israel behind Turkish allegations

CAIRO (Reuters) - Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara said yesterday that internal problems and Israel were behind Turkish allegations that Syria is supporting Turkish Kurd rebels, presidential sources said.

"There are internal problems [in Turkey], there is an Israeli dimension, and there are also some officials who do not want to reach a normal atmosphere and good neighborly relations between the two countries," Shara said in Cairo after meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Shara was delivering a message to Mubarak from Syrian President Hafez Assad related to the current dispute between Turkey and Syria. "We in Syria have refused [Turkish] threats and have expressed our true will to find diplomatic solutions to all problems, with the security problem at the forefront," he said.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa and Syrian Ambassador to Egypt Issa Darwish were also present at the meeting.

"The general strategic view is that Arab-Turkish relations are important and require both sides to move towards one another," Moussa said.

"There is a possibility that I might visit Turkey within the next few days," Moussa said. He returned on Tuesday from visits to

Ankara and Damascus aimed at mediating in the conflict.

Turkey since last week has threatened military action against its southern neighbor, charging Damascus with waging an "undeclared war" by backing Kurdish separatist guerrillas seeking autonomy in southeast Turkey.

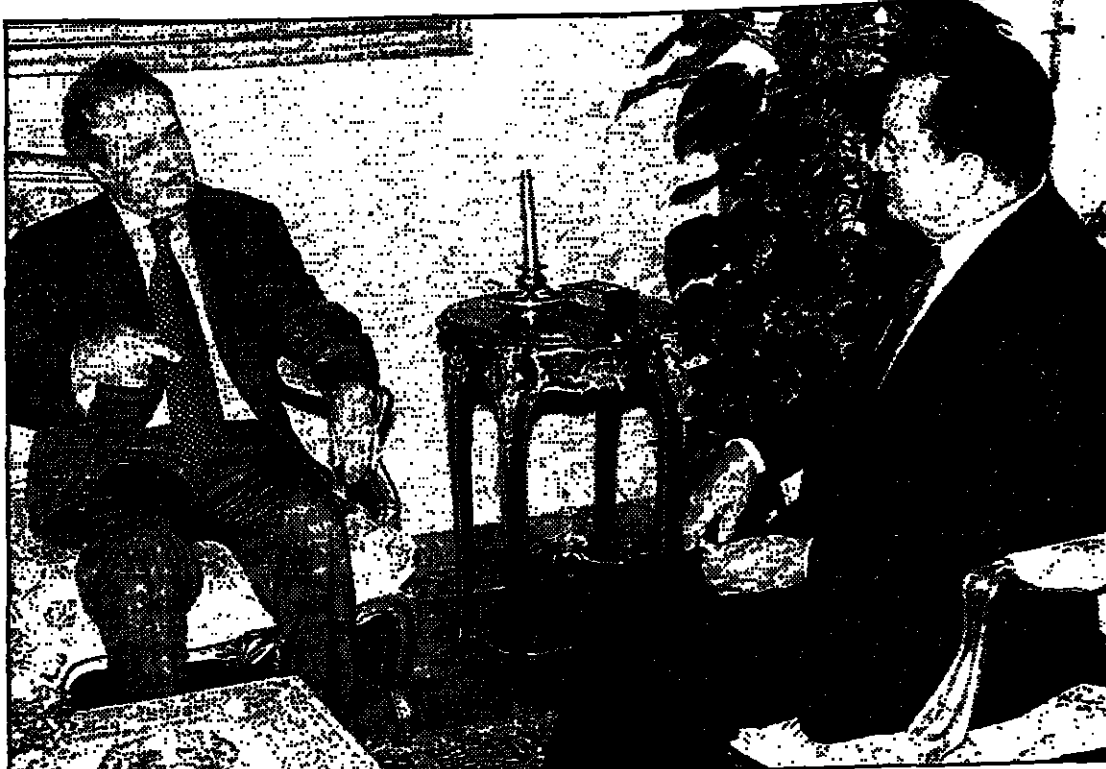
Syria denies helping the guerrillas.

The United States and much of the Arab world have called for calm amid worries that the dispute may spin out of control, destabilize the region, and destroy Middle East peacekeeping.

Demirel yesterday warned Arab countries against backing Syria.

"My message is clear. This is a problem between the two countries. Any country which sees this as an opportunity to adopt a hostile policy towards Turkey, will face the consequences," mainstream daily *Milliyet* quoted Demirel as saying in an exclusive interview. He did not elaborate on what might be the consequences.

Demirel's remarks coincided with a statement by a 22-member Arab group at the United Nations which expressed solidarity with Syria and rejected what it called Turkish threats to Damascus. The Arab group, currently chaired by Egypt, also urged Turkey in the statement late on Friday to exercise maximum restraint.



Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara (left) meets Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in Cairo yesterday. (Reuters)

Turkey's ties with the Arab world have long been strained since it forged an informal military alliance with Israel.

Turkish Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz held on to the hawkish

tone of warnings against Syria. "We want Syria to halt any kind of logistical support [to the PKK]. If Syria does not take a step back on this subject, we will take a step forward," the Anatolian

news agency quoted Yilmaz as saying.

In addition to the Kurdish issue, Turkey and Syria have a long-standing territorial dispute and differences over water rights.

Israel withholds prize from Generali

By ANN S. KIM

Bobby Brown, the prime minister's Diaspora affairs adviser, said on Friday that an award will be withheld from an Italian insurance company that has refused to release information on Holocaust era policies.

Brown said Assicurazioni Generali has not complied with requests to release information on 337,000 World War II policies.

The company's chairman was to receive an award at an economic conference Wednesday for Generali's contribution to the Israeli economy.

Generali could still receive the award if it agrees in writing before the conference to release the information, Brown said.

"My deepest wish is to give them the prize," Brown said. "I've stated what we look at as the minimum for what we need to give the prize."

Brown said Generali had not given any sign it would act before the prime minister's "Jubilee Business Conference" next week.

Generali, Italy's largest insurer, provided information on the policies about six months ago to Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust

memorial and research institute. The chairman of the Yad Vashem, Avner Shalev, said last month that at least 100,000 of those policies were taken out by Jews.

Under the terms of the agreement, Yad Vashem cannot publish the information, but may only use it for its own research.

Antoine Bernheim, Generali's chairman of the board, is among dozens of international business leaders who are to receive the "Jubilee Award" on Wednesday.

Generali spent \$320 million in 1997 to acquire a majority position in Migdal, an Israeli insurance company.

In a large ad in Friday's edition of *The Jerusalem Post*, Generali asserted the company's "strong affinity to the history of the Jewish people and to the state of Israel." It cited a trust fund it created for Holocaust survivors and an information center that provides information on World War Two policies.

Generali also said in the ad that it had been persecuted during World War Two as a Jewish company and that Bernheim is a Holocaust survivor whose parents perished in concentration camps. (AP)

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Russia tries to stave off NATO strikes against Serbs

By News Agencies

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov said yesterday that if NATO uses force to try to resolve the Kosovo crisis, Russia may have to revise its relationship with the western alliance. Russian news agencies reported yesterday. He reiterated that Russia would use its veto in the UN Security Council to prevent airstrikes against Yugoslavia. "We cannot allow this resolution," Primakov was quoted as saying by the Interfax news agency.

The comments came as NATO Secretary General Javier Solana said in Brussels yesterday that Serb forces were not meeting international demands for a withdrawal from Kosovo, and warned the alliance was close to giving the order to launch air strikes.

"There is still no compliance on the ground," Solana told reporters after meeting ambassadors from the 16 NATO allies.

"If [Yugoslav President Slobodan] Milosevic does not comply, I can tell you that NATO is ready to act... time is running out," NATO officials said. "A large percentage" of the Serbian special police units in Kosovo had not returned to barracks and appeared to be digging in for the winter.

Solana said the NATO ambassadors "cleared all the decisions that need to be taken" prior to an "activation order" that would authorize NATO's military commander to launch air raids against

Serbia. NATO officials said those decisions included agreements on rules of engagement, targeting, liaison with humanitarian organizations working in Kosovo and the safety of NATO troops in Bosnia.

Final approval of the air strike order is being held up by constitutional procedures in some NATO allies — notably Germany, where the cabinet is to discuss the issue Monday, and Italy, following the collapse of the government Friday. Despite those delays, NATO officials said the activation order would come in the coming days if the mission to Serbia by US envoy Richard Holbrooke fails to produce a diplomatic solution.

Albania yesterday formally

offered its air bases and ports to NATO should it need them for any air strikes against Serbia over the conflict with ethnic Albanians in Kosovo.

"The Government of the Republic of Albania decided to put to the service of NATO its air space and waters in case NATO intervenes militarily to end the violence in Kosovo," a government statement said. The decision allows NATO aircraft and ships to use the air space, airports, waters and ports of Albania, which belongs to NATO's Partnership for Peace scheme, until the end of the year.

Primakov said that if NATO goes ahead with airstrikes, "it could destroy the world's existing security system," he said, accord-

ing to the ITAR-Tass news agency. Such a move would set a dangerous precedent for the use of force, without UN approval, against other countries, he said.

Russia's parliament has already said it would review all agreements between NATO and Russia if the western alliance were to opt for force against Yugoslavia.

Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov added his voice yesterday to the chorus of Russians opposed to NATO airstrikes. He said that Yugoslavia should be left to sort out the Kosovo conflict on its own.

"If there is a need for resolving issues in Yugoslavia, including with the help of military pressure, the UN Security Council should sanction it," Interfax quoted Luzhkov as saying.



Italian President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro waves during a visit to Florence yesterday, where he is holding talks with political leaders after the ruling coalition collapsed on Friday. (AP)

Italy seeking a new government, again

By JUDE WEBBER

ROME (Reuters) — Italy, its international credibility battered by the collapse of its center-left government, threw itself yesterday into the daunting task of solving yet another political crisis.

The upheaval came as NATO military planners were completing plans for the air strikes that the 16-nation alliance has threatened to unleash against Yugoslavia. Caretaker Defense Minister Beniamino Andreatta said Italy's commitment could be counted on.

"When political authorities give the order, our armed forces are ready to join the armed forces of other countries in the alliance to mount the maximum pressure so that law is restored in Kosovo," he told a congress of war veterans in Florence.

Caretaker Prime Minister Romano Prodi, who lost a vote of confidence Friday by a single vote, met the leader of the biggest party in his outgoing government, the DS, for talks.

DS leader Massimo D'Alema told reporters after a two-hour chat with Prodi at his home in the northern city of Bologna, that he found him understandable, but not relaxed.

He told reporters that Prodi might consider trying to form another government if asked. "He told me that first he wants to see how things develop, he wants to see what conditions there are because clearly he believes that if there are grounds for a stable government, this is the best for the country," he said.

"We'll evaluate the situation together... and decide gradually what can be done," D'Alema added.

But Alfredo Biondi, a deputy in opposition leader Silvio Berlusconi's Forza Italia party, said even D'Alema knew deep down that a "Prodi II" government was unrealistic.

"The miracle of resuscitating the dead is a Biblical vision I don't think happens these days," he said.

Although Italy is well used to political chaos — Prodi's government was the 55th since World War Two — the shockwaves set off by its dramatic downfall were still acutely felt.

Some political commentators thought Prodi an accidental kamikaze who grossly misjudged things by calling a confi-

dence vote without being certain of his arithmetic.

La Repubblica daily lamented the inglorious demise of "one of the best governments ever," calling it "baroque masochism."

Prodi, who six months ago was trumpeting Italy's against-the-odds entry into the single European currency as proof it was turning the page into a new era, had built up respect internationally with his steady application and dazzling deficit cutting.

"A leadership that had won credit and international consensus has gone and the notion that Italy could become a really stable country, with... governments that govern has gone up in smoke too," *La Repubblica* said in a front-page editorial.

The baton passes now to Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, who as president is the supreme arbiter in Italian politics.

He was due to meet the speakers of both houses of Parliament yesterday at the start of intense consultations to determine what should happen next. Political sources said Scalfaro was leaning towards asking someone — possibly Prodi but more likely another figure — to go back to Parliament to try to form another government.

Scalfaro, who is known to oppose rushing Italy into a general election 2 1/2 years early, was to meet Senate Speaker Nicola Mancino, as well as the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, Luciano Violante.

The two men are the next most important institutional figures after Scalfaro. The president, nearing the end of a seven-year term that has seen five governments come and go, will meet representatives of all forces in Parliament tomorrow and Tuesday, wrapping up events by consulting two former presidents.

His final appointment is with Francesco Cossiga, Christian Democrat president from 1985-92 and now the wily leader of the centrist UDR party, who is unlikely to give impartial advice.

Cossiga, who put together his party with defectors from the center-right and has not had to face the electorate, wants a "grand coalition" to take over the reins of power.

Prodi, who stays on in the meantime as caretaker, should be able to summon enough support to back eventual NATO air strikes, but the cost in domestic political terms could be high.

By SAMIR ARHAUT

GLUMINA, Bosnia (Reuters) — Around 240 bodies of Muslim victims of Bosnia's 1992-1995 war have been exhumed from the biggest mass grave discovered in the war-torn Balkan country so far, government officials said on yesterday.

They said experts would continue work on the site on a small hill by the eastern village of Glumina, close to the border with Yugoslavia, today and that more remains may be found. But it was uncertain whether the mass grave held as many as 300 bodies, as they had estimated earlier.

"We have found the remains of more than 240 victims, most probably Muslims from this area," said Amor Masovic, head of the commission for missing persons of Bosnia's Muslim-Croat federation, one of the country's two autonomous entities.

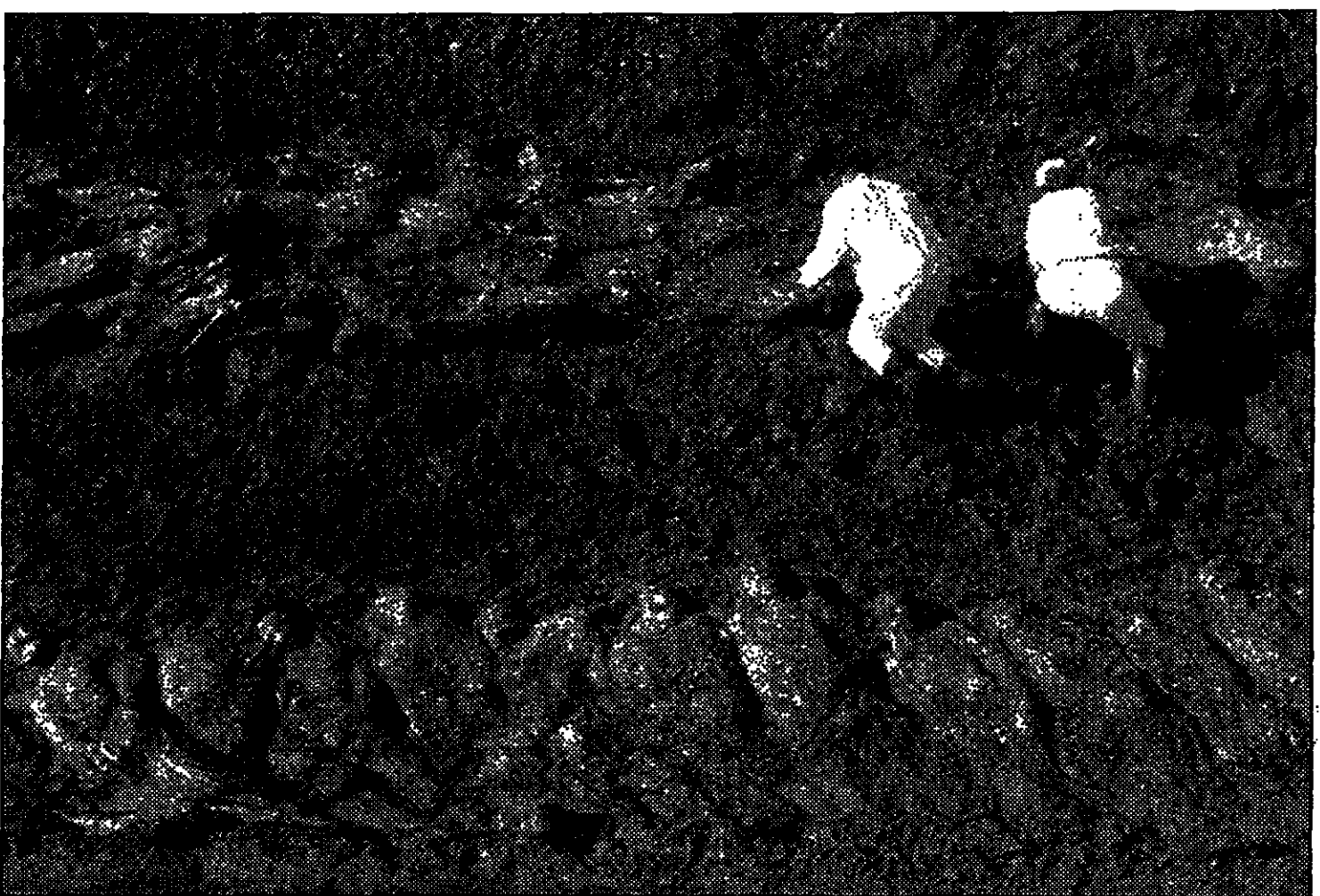
"It is so far the biggest number of victims found in a single grave," he told reporters.

The victims are believed to be from nearby villages and from the town of Zvornik, now in Bosnia's Serb-Republic. Officials have said the victims were civilians, but could not give any more details until autopsies had been carried out.

Masovic said he believes there were other smaller graves nearby and that his team would start work there soon. He said there were still 1,500 persons from the Zvornik area reported missing.

The newly found mass grave, located a few hundred meters from the village, is 70 to 80 meters long and some 10 meters wide. Masovic, heading a team of 20 experts working at the site, told reporters that the bodies were buried at a depth of between 30 centimeters and two meters. "Obviously [the grave] was dug with heavy equipment," he said.

The bodies, lying side by side,



Forensic pathologists yesterday examine remains in a mass grave being exhumed in the Bosnian village of Glumina. So far 240 bodies — believed to be Muslims killed by Serb forces in 1992 — have been exhumed from the grave. (AP)

German sentenced to death for sex with Iranian

By AFSHIN VALINEJAD

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — An Iranian appeals court yesterday upheld a death sentence for a German businessman convicted of having a sexual relationship with a Muslim woman, a decision that could worsen relations between Iran and Germany.

Helmut Hofer, 56, will be executed for having "illegitimate relations" with 26-year-old Vahideh Qassemi, the court said. Qassemi was sentenced to 100 lashes.

An appeal to the country's Supreme Court is expected in two

days, and legal experts said that the court would likely overturn the verdict. But the decision still came as a shock to German officials and Hofer's lawyers, who had expected him to be released.

German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel said his government will protest to Iran's ambassador in Bonn, and continue to fight for Hofer's exoneration.

The court ruling "inevitably throws a new shadow on both sides' wish to improve relations," Kinkel said in a statement, which appealed to Iran to "ensure humaneness and justice."

"The verdict contradicts all

expectations," he said.

Iranian law punishes sex between unmarried Muslims with flogging. If the man is a non-Muslim, he faces the death penalty.

Hofer was sentenced to death in January soon after his arrest for having sex with Qassemi, a medical student. The appeals court had earlier assured German officials that Hofer would be freed because the court was satisfied that he had converted to Islam and would marry the Iranian woman.

"I'm surprised. I expected that today's verdict would clear Hofer of all charges," said Hofer's lawyer, Malekhoushang Qazbani.

tion work could start as soon as possible.

"We will not put the past behind us until we resolve these cases," Klein told reporters while visiting the mass grave.

More than 200,000 people were

killed in Bosnia's 43-month war among Muslims, Croats, and Serbs. Zvornik, like other towns in eastern Bosnia, was "ethnically cleansed" by Serb forces, who expelled or killed its Muslim residents.

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Farmers join police to curb violence in S. Africa

By BRENDAN BOYLE

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters) — South African farmers and police agreed yesterday on a common program to end a tidal wave of brutal crime mainly affecting whites, which President Nelson Mandela had earlier labelled as unacceptable.

Farmers, police, soldiers and government leaders met in Johannesburg to discuss an escalating four-year rural crime wave that has made the 58,000 white commercial farmers five times more likely than ordinary South Africans to be murdered.

"Of immediate importance in curbing attacks on the farming community is effective law enforcement," the leaders said in a declaration.

But they said poverty, unemploy-

and huge numbers of illegal weapons were the root causes of the violence that has seen one in 100 white farmers killed since apartheid made way for democracy in 1994.

They agreed to set up a panel that would map out civilian and security force strategies to curb attacks on farms.

"The government deplores the cold-blooded killings that have been taking place on the farms in the past few years," Mandela said in an opening address to the meeting.

"While killings on farms... have been a feature of South African life for many decades, the incidents of murder and assault in farming areas have increased dramatically," he said.

Mandela, who is resting on doctors' orders after a gruelling tour last month to the United States and

who are outnumbered five to one by blacks, to stay in South Africa and make a contribution.

"There is no political campaign to drive white people, and in particular Afrikaners, off the land," he said.

"The problem of rural security is not just a white issue, it affects black farmers just as much. It's just that it is the killing of white farmers that gets into the newspapers," said National African Farmers Union president James Mativandela.

He said that most of the violence against farmers was opportunistic, adding: "There are these huge gaps in the police cover. Some farms might be 20, 30, even 50 kilometers from the nearest police station." Police said in a report to the meeting that attacks on farms had escalated by 72 percent in the first half of this year compared to

attacks and 65 murders reported in the year to June 30.

"What is most disconcerting is the obvious degree of violence employed by criminals involved in attacks on farms and smallholdings," the report said.

The police said many believed the attacks were politically motivated, but added that there was "no substantial evidence of any overt political motive being behind the attacks."

The latest murder was reported on Friday, when police said a 76-year-old man living alone on a farm near Kareedouw in the Eastern Cape Province was bludgeoned to death in his homestead.

"We must stop these killings at once and we must act together in doing so, for there is no other way to succeed," Mandela told the

He urged black and white farmers and workers to join rural military commando units and said he had instructed Defense Minister Joe Modise to find ways to boost recruitment.

The part-time commando units established under white rule to protect farmers from guerrilla attacks by Mandela's African National Congress have so far attracted few black recruits.

Sam Shilowa, general secretary of the powerful Congress of South African Trade Unions, said in an interview that he would endorse Mandela's call despite reservations about the commando system.

"We're saying yes, but we're also saying that simultaneously comrade Modise needs to engage with us and with the community in terms of how best we can make

Congo rebels shoot down jet with 40 passengers

KINSHASA, Congo (AP) — Rebels in eastern Congo shot down a passenger jet carrying 40 people yesterday, a Congo Airlines representative said.

A missile hit the rear engine of the Boeing jet shortly after the aircraft took off from Kindu Airport in eastern Congo, the airline representative said in a telephone interview in Kinshasa.

The plane crashed into a densely forested area just outside of Kindu, about 1,000 kilometers east of Kinshasa.

The airline official said women and children were among the civilian passengers on the aircraft. There was no immediate information on casualties as rescue workers were still searching for the wreckage.

It was unclear which side controlled the aircraft that was shot down.

Several civilian CAL aircraft were taken over by rebel fighters in eastern Congo after they launched a rebellion against President Laurent Kabila at the

start of August. The planes were used to ferry soldiers to western Congo near the capital.

Some of the planes may have been recaptured by the government after rebel troops abandoned a number of towns in the west.

A rebel army of ethnic Tutsis and disaffected members of Kabila's army launched an armed uprising against the government in August. Rebel troops marched as far as Kinshasa's suburbs in late August before a coalition of government troops and

Congolese allies helped repel the attackers.

Fighting has since shifted to eastern Congo, where the rebels still control a number of key cities.

Kindu had been the scene of heavy fighting in recent days, with loyalist forces battling rebel gunmen trying to take control of the strategic airbase in the town.

Kabila has turned Kindu into a launching pad for a counter-offensive against rebel positions in eastern Congo.

Sorting out the impeachment hearings

By JOHN WHITESIDES

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — President Bill Clinton's impeachment hearings could feature a parade of familiar players in the scandal drama, including Monica Lewinsky, Linda Tripp and even independent counsel Kenneth Starr, House members said on Friday.

As with every other step in the month-old impeachment process, however, decisions on who will testify, who will be questioned and what evidence will be considered are filled with potential for partisan combat in a deeply divided House of Representatives Judiciary Committee.

White House spokesman Joe Lockhart said.

"I think we're going to go up and listen. We're going to see how the committee wants to move forward," Lockhart said.

The House on Thursday approved an unrestricted, open-ended inquiry of Clinton that could range far beyond the fallout from Clinton's affair with Lewinsky.

Republican committee staffers on Friday were putting together a list of proposed stipulations of facts, or facts which both sides agree to be true. If they could agree on them, it would cut down on the evidence in dispute and quicken the inquiry, Hyde said.

scandal drama should testify in open session before the committee, including two with the biggest roles — Lewinsky and Starr.

"There is no way you can have an impeachment inquiry and not call the major witnesses," said Representative Martin Meehan, a Massachusetts Democrat, citing Lewinsky, her former friend Linda Tripp, Clinton secretary Betty Currie and Starr as such major figures.

"You have to have the person who submitted the 445-page report," Meehan said of Starr, whose report to Congress last month citing potential impeachable offenses including perjury and obstruction of justice kicked off the process.

The day after the House's 258-176 vote to launch presidential impeachment proceedings for only the third time in US history, members of the panel that will carry out the probe began trying to sort out how to proceed.

Committee Chairman Henry Hyde said public hearings would begin in mid-November after the Nov. 3 elections and repeated a vow to wrap up the probe by the end of the year.

"I don't think the conclusion is inevitable at all. I think there is a lot of hard work ahead of us," Hyde told reporters.

White House Counsel Charles Ruff will meet with Judiciary Committee lawyers this week to open discussions on how to pro-

"We have to make an effort to stipulate ... as many facts as possible," said Representative James Sensenbrenner of Wisconsin, second-ranking Republican on the committee.

"If we have to go through and decide what's right and what's wrong on every witness, it will be a very lengthy procedure," he said.

Once the committee turns to determining what witnesses would be called, Hyde said his only goal would be "not to call people for the sake of calling them. They have to provide some useful, essential brick in the building we're trying to make."

Democratic committee members said they believed a wide range of players in the nearly year-long

"You don't have a judicial proceeding and not have the prosecutor appear," Meehan said.

Hyde said he saw "no need" to call Lewinsky, who testified under an immunity agreement that he believed gave her no reason to lie. As for Starr, he said, "I wouldn't object. But I think I would make a strenuous effort to keep the line of inquiry on track rather than make this a trial of Starr." Sensenbrenner said any Democratic attempt to call Starr to testify would be a political tactic.

"Bringing Starr into testify would be a diversion," he said. "Starr is not the issue here. The issue is the president's conduct."

US: Missile defense system in Gulf 'imperative'

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — US Defense Secretary William Cohen said yesterday it has become "imperative" for American allies in the Gulf to acquire a ballistic missile defense system to counter long-range weapons in the hands of countries such as Iran and Iraq.

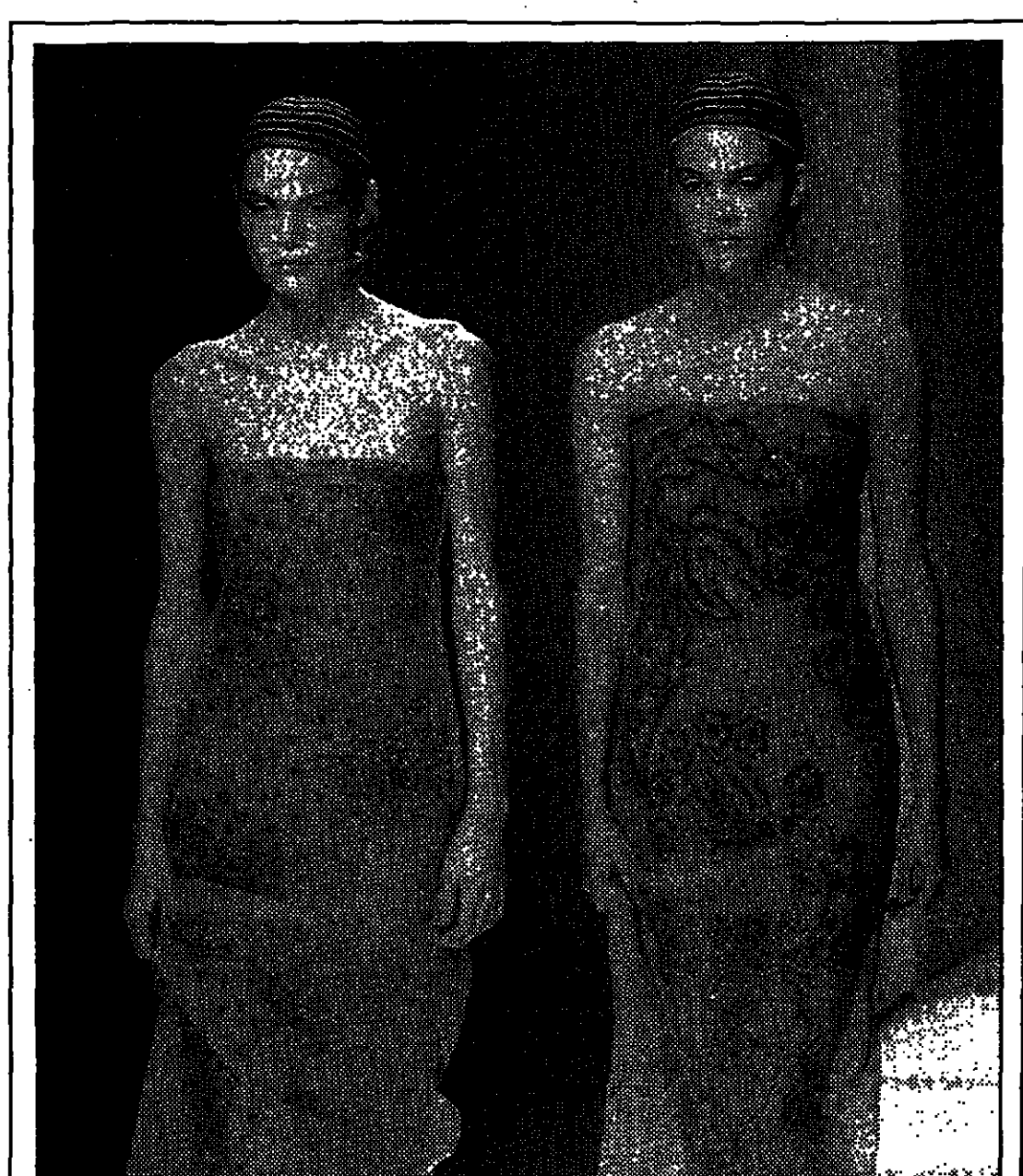
Cohen said the United States has five defense systems under research and development and "we hope we hope we can share that technology with Bahrain and other Gulf countries." He was speaking to reporters before leaving for Qatar, his second stop in a six-nation Gulf tour, which includes the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia.

"Because of the proliferation of missile technology globally — but especially in the Gulf region — we believe it's important" to look at ways to cooperate with US allies, said Cohen.

"I think it becomes imperative that countries cooperate and develop a theater missile protection system for their people and for their forces," said Cohen, citing threats from Iran and Iraq.

Cohen said Iraq, which is under UN sanctions, continues efforts to acquire missile technology that has a longer range than it is permitted to have.

During his three-day stay in Bahrain, which is home to the US Navy's 5th Fleet, Cohen met high-ranking officials, including the emir, Sheikh Isa bin Salman al Khalifa, and Crown Prince Sheikh Hamad bin Isa al Khalifa.



Armani goes gossamer
Models at a Milan fashion show yesterday present part of Italian designer Giorgio Armani's 1999 womenswear spring-summer collection. It is built around simple pieces cut from gossamer-sheer fabrics in muted tones of tan and grey. (AP)

Clark Clifford dies at 91

Was presidential advisor, Zionist supporter

By MARCY GORDON

WASHINGTON (AP) — Clark M. Clifford, the consummate Washington insider and a top adviser to four Democratic presidents, died early yesterday. Clifford, who was 91, had been in ill health in recent years — a period that saw his once distinguished reputation tarnished by an international banking scandal.

No one in Washington, no one in the country, operated so close to power for so long. Clifford, a defense secretary in the Johnson administration, was a powerful attorney and an adviser who whispered into the ears of Harry S. Truman, Lyndon Johnson, John F. Kennedy and Jimmy Carter.

But they were long gone when Clifford became embroiled in a scandal that dragged his name into the headlines from mid-1991 until late 1993 in the BCCI banking case.



Clark Clifford (Reuters)

Criminal charges against him were dropped in 1993 because of his age and ill health, and the last of several civil suits prompted by the case were settled last month.

His health had been deteriorating for some time, and he died at 2 a.m. yesterday morning at his home in Bethesda, Maryland, his daughter, Randall Wright, said.

He had been bedridden for nearly three years but was mentally fit until his death, she said. The exact

cause of death was not immediately known, but he suffered from heart trouble and respiratory difficulties. He had a heart attack in 1993.

Clifford played a role in 11 presidential campaigns. He was the genius behind Truman's startling victory over Thomas Dewey in 1948, when no one gave the president a chance.

A long-time backer of Zionism, Clifford was special counsel to Truman at the time of Israel's founding. In an article published in *The New Yorker*, Clifford told how the president contrived to overturn violent opposition in his cabinet, especially from George Marshall, to extending Israel de facto recognition at birth.

Clifford never ran for office and was on the government payroll only five of his 46 years in the capital: four years on Truman's staff and 10 months as Johnson's secretary of defense during the Vietnam War.

In his law practice, Clifford drew the biggest clients with the biggest problems because he could get things done. His billing sheet included General Electric, Standard Oil, DuPont, Phillips Petroleum and the reclusive millionaire Howard Hughes.

Clifford first came to Washington as assistant to Truman's naval aide, a St. Louis friend. One of his jobs was to help unescorted women to their seats at ceremonial occasions; another was redesigning the presidential seal.

Clifford's idea was that Truman be "controversial as hell" in the 1948 campaign. Clifford has been credited with inventing Truman's innovative whistle-stop campaign in which he rallied farmers to his side, but in truth no one knows whose inspiration it was.

The Washington lawyer was summoned back to the White House by President Kennedy after the 1961 Bay of Pigs debacle in Cuba. He suggested that the president create an independent presidential board to oversee the intelligence community, which stood accused of misleading Kennedy.

Iranian group adds over \$300,000 to Rushdie bounty

By AFSHIN VALINEJAD

TEHRAN (AP) — A hard-line Iranian student group has offered 1 billion rials (\$333,333) to anyone who kills Salman Rushdie, the second bounty on the British author's head.

The move, reported in a newspaper yesterday, came just weeks after the relatively moderate government of President Mohammad Khatami distanced itself from the death edict and an earlier reward offer of \$2.5 million.

The Association of Hezbollah

University students said despite Khatami's pledge, they are still ready to carry out the death sentence against Rushdie and were willing to pay the \$333,333 to any person who kills him, *Kayhan* newspaper reported.

It did not say where the students

would obtain the funds.

In London, the British Foreign Office said it will likely raise the matter with Iranian authorities.

"We deplore any organization placing a bounty on the head of a British citizen," a Foreign Office spokesman said.

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Storing up for winter

Russian pensioners walk in the rain yesterday in Moscow lugging a bag of potatoes. As the food crisis continues and prices tend to grow, the Russian public is planning for the forthcoming winter.

(Reuters)

Voices preach gospel of financial savvy to African Americans

Investment events targeted to blacks often end up like Baptist revivals

By MICHELLE SINGLETARY

WASHINGTON (The Washington Post) — "As black people we like to say we make \$400 billion a year," thundered the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson. "We should be ashamed to admit that."

"The white man don't care how much you had and spent," Jackson shouted. "Brag about about how much you've kept and invested."

"Amen," I said, jumping to my feet like everyone else who had come to hear Jackson speak.

If I hadn't known better, I would have sworn I was in church.

But I wasn't. I was attending a luncheon sponsored by the Coalition of Black Investors. It was COBI's first annual conference for black investors, and Jackson had come to preach a different gospel.

Blacks should be turning first to the stock pages, not the sports pages, Jackson said.

Blacks should be buying stocks, bonds and mutual funds instead of overpriced homes, BMWs and fancy clothes.

"We need to stop being defined as consumers," he said.

"Go ahead and preach, brother," hollered the man sitting beside me. I can't remember a time when so many black activists, ministers and politicians have preached about investing as if it were the gospel.

Financial events targeted to black investors and sponsored by black organizations — from Jackson's Rainbow Coalition to COBI to the NAACP to the Congressional Black Caucus — often end up like Baptist revivals. They just know that a lot of folk are tired of being broke and are ready to be saved.

It's about time.

During this year's Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference, Rep. Earl F. Hilliard, D-Ala., invited a panel of black financial advisers to deliver that sermon. The forum, titled "African American Investment: Mobilizing to Build Wealth for the New Millennium," drew a number of "amens" from the audience.

"Capitalism is the name of the game in America, and African Americans must learn to play," Hilliard said. "It could take seven generations for us to even the score unless we adopt a wealth-building strategy now." And, you know, it's not really all that hard to invest. One of the first places to start is by putting money in your company's 401(k) plan.

The way I see it, investing in these plans, which often have a number of mutual funds to choose from, is like getting free money — most companies match employee contributions to these tax-deferred retirement plans, often dollar-for-dollar.

So, even if the stock or bond market goes down, you can still be ahead because your employer already doubled your money going in.

Thankfully, an increasing number of investment companies — often pushed by black professionals within their ranks — now recognize that blacks have money and are more willing than ever to put those dollars into something other than a simple savings account or low-yielding certificate of deposit.

"I'm so pleased to see some beginnings of an effort to both educate and make financial services more broadly available to the African-American market," said Glenn C. Loury, a professor of economics and director of the

Institute on Race and Social Division at Boston University.

Spearheading some of this educational effort has been Chicago-based Ariel Mutual Fund, one of the country's oldest black-run-and-managed mutual fund companies, with total assets under management of \$8.4 billion. About \$517 million of that is in its three mutual funds.

The firm's largest mutual fund, the Ariel Appreciation Fund, a "value" fund that invests in mid-size company shares whose prices are lower than the market average, has done well over the past three years, according to research service Morningstar Inc., which gave it four out of a possible five stars in its August rating.

Ariel has joined brokerage house Charles Schwab & Co. to sponsor one of the most comprehensive surveys of the investing and saving habits of blacks and whites with annual incomes of \$50,000 or higher.

Other financial companies, such as American Express Financial Advisors, Merrill Lynch & Co. and Bloomberg L.P., are exhibiting at black conferences, sponsoring educational projects and developing special units to market specifically to blacks.

Still it's not enough for a company to say it is committed to getting black business. Still running a few ads with black faces isn't going to work. Clearly, investment companies have to approach blacks differently. It's a cultural thing, nothing personal.

"We know that if we have more diverse advisers it can accelerate our market penetration of those diverse groups," said Dick Gaskins, a vice president for American Express Financial

Advisors and head of its Diversity Resource Centers.

Specifically, American Express has increased its effort to hire more minority and female advisers. Arnold said Schwab is doing the same.

American Express also is taking other steps to break a lot of the barriers to attracting black investors. Nationwide the company has created "learning labs" where financial planners are trained on how to drum up business among minorities, including African Americans, Hispanics, gay men and lesbians.

In these labs, groups of brokers learn the cultural nuances that can make the difference between signing up a client and walking away empty-handed. For example, while some white customers might be comfortable with divulging a lot of personal information right away, brokers learn that blacks might not be so willing to tell much of their business during a first meeting, Gaskins said.

The timing may seem a bit unfortunate for nudging people to invest. The stock market, after all, has fallen steeply in the past two months. That fact didn't escape attendees at the COBI conference.

"Sure, as soon as black folks try to get into something, it goes downhill," quipped one attendee.

But don't let the market gyrations discourage you: For most consumers, black or white, investing should be a long-term strategy, so you don't have to worry about daily fluctuations.

Frankly, it's time for our community to have faith and embrace sound and sensible investment strategies that will help us accumulate and build real wealth. Let the church say amen.

Investment bank battles rumors

Lehman Brothers is fighting claims that the company is teetering on the verge of financial collapse

NEW YORK (The Washington Post) — Wall Street lives on rumors and whispers. Traders gossip about the stocks heading up and the companies facing trouble — any kind of information that gives them an inside edge.

Nobody knows this better than Richard Fuld, the veteran bond trader who is chairman of the Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc., one of the nation's biggest investment banks. "For 30 years," he said in an interview Friday in his waterfront office in the heart of Manhattan's financial district, "I've heard hundreds and hundreds of rumors." Now rumors are spreading that Lehman is teetering on heavy financial losses — and Fuld is desperately rallying employees, reassuring creditors and complaining to the Securities and Exchange Commission before the firm is permanently damaged.

"If SEC regulators find out who started these stories," Fuld said, twisting a rubber band around his finger, "I'd like to have 15 minutes with them first." Fuld insisted that Lehman is on sound financial footing, and ascribed dark motives to those who spread gossip to the contrary.

Lehman makes a tempting target: The markets are in turmoil and many Wall Street houses are facing steep losses.

Lehman is no longer affiliated with American Express Co., its one-time deep-pocketed partner. It specializes in bond trading — one of the most turbulent markets. And it doesn't have a retail brokerage or credit card operation that could help diversify its earnings sources.

Fuld has taken an unusually aggressive approach to attacking these rumors — and Lehman's battle against death by rumor offers an unusual journey into the heart of the modern-day rumor mill. The rumors have been brutal to Lehman's stock price, which hit a high of \$85 on July 13 and closed as low as \$24.75 recently. Bond market investors are demanding far higher yields than normal to buy Lehman's debt.

Corporations for centuries have been at the center of rumors, but the Internet has given gossips a worldwide platform. Electronic hangouts operated by Yahoo, America Online, the Motley Fool, Excite and others have become loosely-regulated vehicles for speculation, rumors and lies.

Last year the SEC was inundated with complaints about what it dubs "pump and dump" — brokers who spread positive, but false, information about small companies to sell stock. But only recently, when the stock market began to tank, did the SEC start getting flooded with calls about bad news clobbering stock prices.

"I call it cybersmear," said John Reed Stark, chief of the office of Internet Enforcement. "This is the flip side of pump-and-dump."

More and more companies are calling us and saying someone's out there spreading lies about us and it's out of control. We're very concerned about it," Stark will not talk specifically about any company or verify investigations. But the case involving Lehman would be the first case the SEC handled involving attempts to cut down a company's stock price. A

source close to the case said the SEC suspects the Lehman rumors may come from traders who had bet Lehman's stock would decline and potential acquirers looking to knock down the company's value.

"They started to feel directed at us," Fuld said. "There appears to be a pattern or a theme." The Lehman rumor began at 8:35 a.m. on Sept. 11, with a sketchy report on the Reuters news service that a major Wall Street firm was about to declare bankruptcy. Investors automatically assumed it was Lehman Brothers because its main businesses are in the heart of the economic turmoil sweeping the globe.

Thousands of calls came in — from customers, clients, creditors and the media. Tom Russo, a managing director, got a panicky call from his mother. "She was having her hair cut, when the hairdresser started talking about Lehman Brothers filing for bankruptcy," Russo said.

The company dashed out a terse paragraph denying the rumors.

Executives assured investors and the media that Lehman was solid. Fuld told employees to ignore the stories. "I said, keep your head down, forget it," he recalls. "They'll go away." But never had he seen a bear market collide with Internet technology. Online, rumors began swirling that the Federal Reserve was scrambling to find a buyer for Lehman. Traders, economists and analysts began talking about Lehman's impending collapse.

Fuld called Richard Grasso, chairman of the New York Stock Exchange, and invited a team to look at the firm's books, aiming to beat a request by the NYSE because of the rumors. The hope was that, when asked, the Big Board would pass a counter-rumor. Indeed, an exchange official confirmed that Lehman was examined and "was in compliance." Then came the near collapse of Long-Term Capital Management LP, the high-flying hedge fund that secretly leveraged itself to the hilt with the help of many of the world's

biggest investment banks. Late last month 14 banks and investment firms, including Lehman, met at the Federal Reserve of New York to cobble together a \$3.6 billion rescue.

Eleven firms contributed \$300 million each. Lehman Brothers debated whether to contribute anything at all. Fuld said, because it had a relatively small exposure to losses from the fund. If it contributed \$300 million, Fuld reasoned, it would look to the world as if Lehman was heavily involved. If it contributed nothing, "we would be chastised by our peers," Russo said.

Lehman ponied up \$100 million. But this only fueled rumors the company could not afford any more money. Online, chat groups were full of gossip, with speculation that Lehman's exposure was equivalent to its stockholders' equity of \$5.5 billion.

"Each and every one of these rumors was proven to be incorrect," Fuld said. Lehman recently put out a highly unusual press release about its earnings, outlining what it described as minimal exposure in emerging markets and to hedge funds. Still, online the debate raged on.

The Federal Reserve was seeking a buyer, cyber-citizens wrote, the company was out of cash. One person, under the moniker "Short-Term Capital Management," wrote in a late-night posting on Yahoo Oct. 2 that Lehman would be acquired by the end of October for \$37.50 to \$42.50 a share.

Fuld has been working full-time to stave off any further deterioration by meeting with as many interested parties as possible.

During the International Monetary Fund meetings in Washington, he held 20 private sessions to quell concern. And he soon will hit the road, visiting at least 20 major stock holders and creditors to set the record straight.

"When people are nervous, it goes away 75 to 80 percent of the time after they talk to me face to face," he said. "Our problem is not our profit-and-loss statement. It's fear."

SHARON

Continued from Page 1

Hassan Asfour, the head of the Palestinian negotiating team, said Sharon will have the opportunity to change his image and work to implement the interim accords.

"Sharon is the only minister who has the authority to agree to a compromise," a senior PA official said. The official said Sharon is seen as the only person in Netanyahu's government who could take difficult decisions — and keep his

promises.

Several members of the PA recalled Sharon's decision to withdraw from the entire Sinai peninsula, a step that finalized the Israeli peace agreement with Egypt in 1979. As defense minister, Sharon carried out the Sinai evacuation three years later.

Netanyahu said Sharon would be put in charge of the final-status talks with the Palestinians — if and when they begin. In the meantime, Sharon will be traveling to this Thursday's summit in the United States with Netanyahu — as will the

other members of the inner cabinet — and is expected to play a significant role there as well.

Sharon has made it clear however that — significant role or not — he will continue to refuse to shake Arafat's hand. Sharon has also reiterated his position that a 13 percent withdrawal from the West Bank is a security risk, and that he will vote against any such decision if it is brought before the cabinet.

Many politicians on the right, including Minister of Transportation Shaul Yahalom (NRP) and Deputy Science

Minister Michael Eitan (Likud) welcomed Sharon's appointment, saying that only he could ensure that Israel's security and national interests are not overridden by the desire to move forward with the peace process.

"There is no doubt that his appointment will strengthen the rightist camp and help the prime minister stand up to the political pressures being put upon him," said Yahalom. Eitan claimed that only Sharon could "square the circle" and achieve both peace and security.

Labor Party leader Ehud Barak, in contrast, said that Sharon's appointment is a sure sign that the government could not, and would not, conclude the final-status talks with the Palestinians. "The appointment... is a sure recipe for the continuation of the freeze [in the peace process]," said Barak.

Meretz Party leader Yossi Sarid derided the appointment, saying that all it proves is that Sharon is "the king of cynicism and opportunism" and that the whole negotiating process is nothing but a "circus."

The Sharon appointment now may be linked to the role envisioned for him in the framework of the upcoming talks. When the late Menachem Begin had Ezer Weizman and Moshe Dayan at Camp David, they tended to weaken his resolve. Netanyahu may need Sharon to do the opposite and bolster him, presenting a more immovable front vis-a-vis the Americans.

That may in the end rule out a deal. But if a deal does emerge and Sharon is partner to it, then he at least won't be able to complain. It will also have been demonstrated to much of the right wing that the best which could have been secured was

forces that from now on someone they implicitly trust will be handling things.

It made sense for Sharon to have accepted the coveted portfolio, when he would be unimpaired by the deal he so vehemently opposed, yet could control the subsequent negotiations for the final status agreement.

Some analysts recall that, without Sharon, it would have been nearly impossible to disband the Sinai settlements after the Camp David Accords. Could a replay of that scenario be in store? Those who know Sharon well have serious doubts that this is so.

One idea in the Likud, the NRP,

cates that there will be no redeployment. The more keen-eyed political observers did not fail to pick up on the relatively upbeat mood last Thursday of the NRP Knesset faction, which arrived fuming to see Netanyahu and left almost at ease.

Did they receive promises that Netanyahu would be so tough in demanding reciprocity from Yasser Arafat that the likelihood of a deal would be minimized? If that were so, Sharon would indeed not have to sully his reputation by linking himself to a pullback.

However, why would Netanyahu need him, if not to help pacify a right-wing outraged by further sig-

This question has led a different school of thought in the Likud to conclude that the timing of the appointment indicates that, if anything, there already is something very close to a done deal and Sharon is more needed than ever to make it kosher.

He could view the appointment as the ultimate vindication from what he considers the calumny of the Kahan Report, while Netanyahu would placate the most potent of his potential enemies.

There are those who suggest we focus on the fact that negotiations under very extreme pressure cook-er-like conditions are about to ensue

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Italy back in crisis

The successful run of Europe's new center-left governments was too good to last and Italy, of course, would have to be the first country to dump its prime minister. It was difficult to see why the opposition should be whooping for joy yesterday, when the government collapsed by a one-vote margin in a parliamentary no-confidence vote.

The times are not exactly auspicious for instability and uncertainty as the world financial crisis gathers pace, the European Union prepares to launch a new currency and, more immediately, Italy may have to join in NATO operations against the Serbs rampaging through Kosovo.

Yet, with 866 days in office, Prime Minister Romano Prodi's government was the second longest-lasting of the 55 in Italy World War II. It was the fifth government President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro has sworn in during his seven-year term, which ends next spring. In a further complication, the president is barred from dissolving parliament in the final six months of his term. Europeans will be hoping Scalfaro can therefore bring this ill-timed crisis to a swift end, either through a snap election, or more hopefully, by getting a new team of coalition partners together for an interim government. Scalfaro at least appears to concur that speed is of the essence and has said he hopes that consultations can be wrapped up early this week.

A caretaker government would not be the most satisfactory one to pass Italy's long-stalled budget and bring the country into the European monetary union, but if that is to be

the case, the European Union would doubtless like to see current Treasury Minister Carlo Ciampi head it. Ciampi is not a member of any of Italy's fractious and troublesome political parties. He led yet another one of the country's interminable interim governments in 1993 and was highly regarded by other EU leaders.

Unfortunately, even if it gets a moderately stable interim government, Italy's divisive "politics as usual" show no sign of mellowing. Prodi's center-left government lost the confidence vote by 312 to 313 votes after being stabbed in the back by its far-left allies - the so-called Communist Refoundation party, over a long-running budget dispute.

Moderates in the Communist Refoundation, whose support brought Prodi into office in 1996, and the Left into government for the first time in Italy, are seething with fury at what they call the "irresponsible opportunism" of the extreme leftists in the party. These brought down their own government, effectively ending up allied with the extreme Right. Refoundation was not part of the government, but Prodi depended on its support for a majority.

The bitterness of the betrayal will not easily be forgotten, but the quicker Italy gets back to a government that can pass the draft 1999 budget, the less nervous the European Union will be about the coming of the euro in the midst of already trying times. The EU, alongside the United States, has been a haven of stability so far in the world economic crisis. It can do very well without Italy's quarrelsome politicians rocking the boat in a stormy sea.

Iran's primitive side

German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel may be shocked, as he said yesterday, by an Iranian court upholding the death sentence on a German national for having a sexual affair with an Iranian woman, but he should not have been surprised. Despite constant reports of moderation and opening up to the rest of the world, Iran continues to show contempt for the norms and human rights most of the world takes for granted.

While wooing Western business on one hand, Iran continues to exhibit both duplicity and primitive behavior. Kinkel is shocked because the German government, after extensive contacts via its embassy in Tehran, had entirely different expectations from the Iranians in this case. It is hard to see what Iran can gain from imposing a death penalty on a foreigner for a personal relationship with a consenting adult woman. While it is clear the power struggle continues in Iran between modernizers and fundamentalists, the world is entitled to know exactly who it is dealing with before it puts its trust in the words of any Iranian official.

Recently Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi assured the British government that the death sentence the late Ayatollah Khomeini pronounced on writer Salman Rushdie is no

longer being sought. Although Rushdie has declared himself free again, he would be imprudent to forgo his security protection. Not only has the religious establishment in Iran said the 1989 fatwa is still in force, but this weekend the main Islamic student association in Tehran placed a new bounty of one billion rials (\$350,000) on the writer's head. The earlier \$2.5 million reward offered by clerics for someone to kill Rushdie also remains in force. In neither case has the government stopped this dangerous \$3 million incitement to murder.

Iranian envoy Ahmad Azizi said, after being summoned to the Foreign Ministry in Bonn to receive a stiff protest over the sentence on Helmut Hofer, that the case "should not be allowed to burden relations" between the two countries. Azizi is absolutely wrong. The cases of Rushdie and Hofer should severely burden not only Iran's relations with Germany, but with the whole European Union, until the danger to the lives of these two men is completely removed. A stand of principle is the only way to tell Iran that if it wants to do business with the civilized world, its primitive use of arbitrary murder threats against citizens of democracies will not be tolerated.

Is Zionism dead?

DANIEL BLOCH

Today, thanks to God and the media, we have seen the last of those special holiday editions, which we, the obsessed readers, are condemned to digest. From the eve of Rosh Hashana, through Yom Kippur, until the eve of Simchat Torah, we are inundated with so much to read and no time to read most of them. They just wait for us in the basket and are usually thrown away Erev Pessah.

I tried my best to take a glimpse at all the articles in the Hebrew and English press and all the programs offered on Radio and TV. This season I found a lot of features dealing with the past, especially around the 25th anniversary of that terrible war, the Yom Kippur War. I found very little written or discussed about our future.

What kind of Israel do we want? Where are we going in the internal relationships between the Right and

Israel as the emerging largest Jewish community and the fact that today most Jews live freely anywhere in the world, the basic premises of the original Zionist ideology promulgated by Herzl and his generation remains true: the centrality of Israel as a physical and spiritual center of the Jewish world. From this follows the importance of preserving Jewish identity through Hebrew and Zionist education: the inter-dependence between Israel and the Diaspora.

This is not bureaucratic Zionism. It is not the corridors of power at the Jewish Agency, where everybody cares only about his status, career, remuneration, and pension. These premises remain the real challenges facing all concerned Jews here and abroad.

Among the very few who dedicate themselves to the real problems of the future of Israel and the

We must ensure Zionism survives in the year ahead

the Left, the secular and the religious, and the upper and lower echelons of our society? Hardly any article dealt with the future relationship between Israel and the Diaspora. Are we going to be totally separated into several Jewish nations both in Israel and abroad, or are we going to reaffirm our commitment to be one nation - tolerant and pluralistic, understanding that Judaism and Jewish identity means different things to different people?

If we want our unique heritage to exist by the end of the 21st century, we have to learn how to find a common denominator based on mutually agreed compromises when no one part dominates all the others.

With all the changes on the international scene, the existence of

Jewish people is Uri Gordon. The former head of the Aliya Department of the Jewish Agency and the World Zionist Executive, Gordon is working even harder now since his retirement.

Handicapped by a recurring polio condition and slowly recovering from a stroke he suffered about a year ago, Uri Gordon travels the country day and night, burning with the true spirit of an historical mission. He hopes to convene a congress of all Zionist Israelis to try to find a common basis for dialogue inside Israeli society. He wants to discuss questions of Jewish education in Israel, relations with Jews abroad, and to try to bridge the gaps inside our society, especially in our political arena.



ARIEL SHARON, Israel's new Foreign Minister

Such a congress would hopefully try to find a way to unite all Zionists, both secular and religious, and to prevent extremism on both sides. He believes that there should be a connection between the Jewish state and the Jewish religion, but that there should be a total separation between religion and politics.

He believes that only such a meeting could bring new life to the ideological debate in our country: one that has become more violent and less tolerant since the decline of the two traditional political parties. Such a congress would be convened not according to party lines, on a voluntary basis, and with a large participation of members of

the academic world - as well as interested and committed people from all parts of our society.

I believe that every concerned person should assist Uri Gordon in implementing his goal. Today we need, more than ever before, more honest and open deliberations and less confrontations.

We have not yet recovered, or perhaps we never will, from the terrible murder of Rabin almost three years ago. We must do everything possible to prevent any act of violence - and this is not the task of our secret service alone. It is up to all of us to ensure that Zionism survives and is reinvigorated in the new year ahead.

Missing Reb Shlomo

DAVID WEINBERG

And so they were. Courageously so. Who else was prepared to foray into the ashrams, hippie villages and pubs of the 1960's flower-child generation, showering love and acceptance of all? Who else was prepared to take the beauty of Jewish mystical teachings and nigunim to the Berkeley Folk Festival, to "Holy Man Jamborees"

Jewish youth knocked on Reb Shlomo's door, begging for tefillin, a siddur and a kippa so that he could properly celebrate his upcoming bar-mitzvah. But, as the tale goes, Reb Shlomo had exhausted his large, smuggled stock of these items. So Reb Shlomo gave the earnest lad his own pair of tefillin (a family heirloom), his personal

Who will teach Jewish spirituality to a hungry, lost generation?

and "Whole Earth Expos" - which were packed with wandering Jewish youth searching for spiritual guidance? Only Reb Shlomo.

"If you want to raise a man out of the mud," Reb Shlomo would quote his namesake Rabbi Shlomo of Karlin, "you have to go all the way down yourself into the mud, and then pull him and yourself out into the light."

In this fashion, Reb Shlomo reclaimed thousands upon thousands of "holly hippielech" - from Haight-Ashbury to Bombay - offering personal redemption through ecstatic song, meditative prayer, and moral, compassionate living.

Especially Moscow. Reb Shlomo was there long before anyone else was paying attention to Russian Jews. His 1965 song *Am Yisrael Chai* - The Jewish People Lives! - became synonymous with the struggle to free Soviet Jewry.

On one of his frequent undercover trips behind the Iron Curtain, a

prayerbook, and the kippa literally off his head.

Landing in Vienna several hours later, Reb Shlomo asked to borrow tefillin for morning prayers from a Jew praying in the airport lounge.

"Before you ask for tefillin, go worry about getting yourself a head-covering," the man scornfully responded. Knowing that once again he was being misjudged unfairly by a fellow Jew lacking sufficient heart and vision, Reb Shlomo responded sadly: "Ah well my friend, one day you should only merit the holy yarmulke that is now covering my head!"

And thus, we all owe Reb Shlomo an apology. For not appreciating him more, for not realizing just how deep he was, and for not applauding him every step of the way.

Today, there is no one to take his place; yet the need is ever great. In recent months, newspapers have told the story of Israeli youth

flocking by the thousands to ashram-style camps in the Negev on holidays, to pray and commune with nature.

The movement seeks to blend the eastern "spirituality" picked-up by searching Israeli kids on their obligatory post-army jaunt to India or Nepal, with whatever few symbols of Judaism they know. A rarefied generation, much like the flower children of the American sixties, crying out for identity, for meaning.

But not knowing how to find it in Judaism.

Which is exactly where Reb Shlomo came into the picture. Were he here, he would have sung *Lema'an Achai Vereyay* (For the Sake of My Brothers) to these lost souls of Israel, and meditated with them in the Negev to the strains of *Borchi Nafshi* (Let My Soul Bless God), *Esa Einai* (Lift Up Your Eyes to the Heavens) and *Mekimi Meafar Dal* (Raise My Broken Spirit from the Dust).

Reb Shlomo would have taught today's spiritually-thirsty Israeli that the gates of heaven can be opened with music (*Pichu Li Shaarei Tzedek*), that we can demand of God to enrich our lives with Torah immanence (*Vehaer Einenu*), and force Him to bring peace upon mankind (*Ufros Aleynu Succat Shlomecha*) - if we only truly will it.

He would've told us to "Wake up World!" and enter "The Palace of the King" through Shabbat observance (*Lecha Dodi*) and holy life within the sacred bounds of Jewish marriage (*Od Yishama*).

But in his absence, who will do that now?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MITZVOT FOR THE DISABLED

Sir, - Last week you published a short news item concerning a disabled boy with cerebral palsy who wanted to have his bar mitzvah ceremony in an Orthodox synagogue. As reported, the rabbi of the synagogue was unwilling to approve the ceremony and the boy went to a Reform synagogue where he was allowed to go through the rites. The article stated that according to Orthodox tradition, disabled people such as the

boy concerned are exempt from all mitzvot.

I wish to respond, in a general way, to this incident. I am a disabled, religious person, who has been investigating for a long time the problems of disabled people with regard to Halacha, including things such as being called to a Torah reading.

From my investigations, I have come to the following two conclusions that relate to the news item:

• A disabled person is not exempted from performing the mitzvot because of his/her disability, with the exception of a very small number.

• Within the framework of Halacha, solutions can be found for many problems that disabled people face.

Hug sameach.

SHAUL ANVARI
Kibbutz Sde Eliyahu.

WAGNER'S OPERAS

Sir, - May I draw attention to an error in your editorial "Germany's important election" (September 27). In it, you refer to Richard Wagner's "public performance of Richard Wagner's symphonies."

Wagner wrote operas, not symphonies, although he made one youthful symphonic attempt which is generally ignored. There are extended orchestral interludes in his operas which are often performed at orchestral concerts. They are not symphonies, and remain

nothing more than interludes, however well they have been crafted.

Richard Wagner was not alone among nineteenth-century musicians in his dislike of Jews, but what distinguishes him from others, like Liszt and Chopin, is the nature of his involvement in a revolutionary nationalist movement. He wrote pamphlets and larger works in support of this activity, which explicitly stated his antisemitism in terms which were completely congruent with the views of the leaders of the Third Reich.

In addition, his operatic villains are metaphors for his antisemitic stereotypes. Had he been a symphonist, the abstract nature of symphonic music might have been acceptable on stage here, as is Liszt's or Chopin's instrumental works. But the operas are too explicit for that, which is why they rouse strong emotions, and why they are still offensive to many here in Israel.

ALBERT JACOB
Beersheba.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On October 11, 1933, The Palestine Post reported that the Palestine Mandatory Government had warned the press that according to the Section 19 of the Press Ordinance the High Commissioner was empowered to take steps to enforce the provisions of the law against any newspaper which published anything calculated

to incite any section of the population to organize or take part in any illegal demonstration or procession.

50 years ago: On October 11, 1948, The Palestine Post reported that Iraqi forces seized new positions on the north-eastern sector of the Arab triangle. Arab Legion

shelled Israeli positions west of Ramallah-Latrun road. A six-pound anti-tank shell fired by Arabs crashed into the Turkish Consulate in the Talbich Quarter of Jerusalem.

An order was issued that all Israeli would be blacked out until further notice.

Alexander Zvielli

Republican hypocrisy on perjury

ALAN DERSHOWITZ

A favorite Republican argument these days is that, unless President Clinton is impeached, we are sending a dangerous message that perjury is acceptable.

Many of the very Republicans who make this slippery argument were resoundingly silent when President George Bush cynically pardoned his former Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger for - you guessed it - perjury!

Did President Bush's pardon send a message that perjury is acceptable? If not, why not? And if so, why didn't we hear from the same loud claque that currently demands Clinton's hide?

It cannot be argued that there was factual doubt about Weinberger's perjury. Weinberger's diary proved beyond any doubt that he lied in denying knowledge of details of Iran arms sales and denying that he kept a diary. He had been indicted, and was awaiting a trial at which a jury would have determined the facts.

It was a slam-dunk case for conviction. But President Bush took the case away from the jury and issued a preemptive pardon. No presumption of innocence shrouds Weinberger, because he forfeited his right to trial by seeking and accepting a politically-motivated pardon.

Just as an indicted defendant who flees before trial cannot claim any presumption of innocence (unless he returns for trial), so too a pardoned

especially when the evidence is as clear as it was in the Weinberger case.

Some Republicans spoke up about the pardon of an indicted perjurer: They applauded it. Senator Dole called it an act of "courage and compassion." Others agreed. Bush pardoned not only Weinberger, but also five others convicted of misleading Congress about the Iran-Contra affair - and no Republicans expressed any fear that it would trivialize or legitimate perjury.

Predictably, some Democrats - such as House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt - argued that the pardons constituted a "presidential approval of violations of the law" and a message that lying to Congress was not a serious offense. Partisan bickering reached its depth when Sen. Dole, the foremost advocate of the Bush pardons, demanded that President Clinton promise not to pardon anyone convicted in the Whitewater scandal. Former Independent Counsel Lawrence Walsh called Dole's demand "hypocrisy."

The argument made on behalf of Weinberger by his Republican friends - and indeed, by President Bush in his pardon statement - was that the independent counsel in that case was trying to "criminalize policy differences."

Weinberger's perjury was only a hook on which to hang a political prosecution. The fact that he lied under oath was deemed trivial by those who agreed with his policies. I guess that for them, perjury as a means toward a politically-desirable result is perfectly all right.

They did indeed trivialize perjury, when committed by their friend - even on an issue as important as circumventing the constitutional authority of Congress. Now, these same Republicans are wringing their hands over a sex lie.

The Iran-Contra hearings were not even the first time Weinberger had lied under oath. In the Jonathan Pollard case, he submitted an affidavit in which he represented to the court that Pollard had caused "greater harm to national security" than any other spy.

That was a flat-out lie, since Pollard had spied for a reliable ally - Israel - and had provided only tactical and regional information necessary for Israel's defense. At the same time, several Soviet spies were providing strategic information - including the names of our counter-intelligence agents and nuclear secrets - to our archenemies.

Pollard's spying caused little harm to the United States, whereas other spies caused the death of several of our agents, and the compromising of

to tell the court that Pollard did more harm than these Soviet spies.

The lawyer who submitted Weinberger's false, misleading and hyperbolic affidavit was none other than Joseph Di Genova, who is leading the campaign against President Clinton and who did not oppose Weinberger's pardon.

The lesson of the Bush-Weinberger pardon is that there is a selective morality in Washington - even about perjury. Republican perjury is different from Democratic perjury, just as Republican sex seems to be different from Democratic sex.

Many of those who argue that perjury is perjury and it doesn't matter whether it's about sex seem to limit their passion to their political opponents, while developing amnesia about their friends. Despite being indicted and pardoned for perjury, Weinberger remains an honored figure within the Republican Party and in business and academic circles.

The fact that he lied under oath is viewed by some as "patriotic." Others see it as business as usual in Washington.

Lying, like sex, serves as an excuse to go after political enemies and support one's cronies. No wonder most Americans believe that this scandal is neither about sex nor lying.

It is about politics - dirty, partisan politics.

150 من الاصل

Etti Ankri & David De'or's new Middle East

Sabra Sounds



By Shai Tsur

When Etti Ankri and David De'or announced a series of shared performances recently, it hardly seemed like earth-shattering news.

ETTI ANKRI AND DAVID DE'OR LIVE
Etti Ankri and David De'or
(Hed Artzi)

While both singers are fairly popular, nothing indicated that their combined efforts would prove in any way out of the ordinary. Granted, both Ankri and De'or are known for their remarkable vocal skills. De'or is well known for his high-pitched countertenor, a voice which some listeners find sublime and others find creepy. For her part, Ankri can be seen as a kind of anti-Rita. She possesses Rita's strength and vocal range, but somehow manages to avoid Rita's over-emotive histrionics.

So, here we have vocalists coming together on stage. Pretty ordinary stuff, right? Well, based on the resulting live disc (as well as a recent performance at Tel Aviv's Wohl Amphitheater) the answer to that would be an emphatic no. Etti Ankri and David De'or live shows two artists at the top of their

game, harmonizing beautifully, and creating what might just be a new musical form.

De'or and Ankri's live show consists of a mix of the two artists' individual songs along with some new material which they co-wrote, and a few interesting covers. This is not simply a case of De'or doing his thing and Ankri doing hers. The two make a concerted effort to combine forces, performing most of the numbers together.

The album includes some of their better-known hits. De'or performs a slightly slowed-down take on "I am Flying" with his voice climbing up the vocal scale as the song progresses. Among Ankri's songs is a wonderful version of "Lolita."

The two singers work well together. On stage they exhibit a strong emotional chemistry. Happily, this chemistry manages to come through on the album. Their vocal styles harmonize well, as can be seen on a song like "The Convoy" which opens both the live show and the disc. "The Convoy" was written by Ziyad Alrahbani, son of the popular Lebanese singer Fayrouz. It is an instrumental track for vocals, and as De'or and Ankri work their way through it they manage both to warm up and to put the audience in the proper mood for the performance.

This atmosphere of the show can be characterized as Middle Eastern mellow. While fusion with Oriental motifs is becoming one of the hallmarks of Israeli rock, the instrumentation here is borrowed directly from Arabic music. Many of the songs revolve around Ilan Ben-Ami's guitar and oud work, with Dana Ben-David playing cello in the style of Arabic violin.

In addition to the Alrahbani tune, the album also features cov-

ers of two popular Middle Eastern party songs: "Echebo," an Algerian folk tune popularized by the singer Khaled, and a reworking of Bob Azam's song "Ya Mustafa."

The strong presence of Arabic music clearly reveals the fingerprints of musical director Alon Olearchik. (Another hint: Ankri and De'or perform a version of Olearchik's "In Your Eyes.") Olearchik was one of the first Israeli musicians to start incorporating Arabic sounds in Israeli rock and here he takes the experimentation to a new level.

Perhaps the most interesting development on the album can be heard on the fourth track, "El Nora Alila," a song co-written by Ankri and De'or and arranged by Olearchik. "El Nora Alila" uses the same blend of rock and Arabic music which characterizes the rest of this disc. The refrain, however, is taken from the Yom Kippur Ne'ila prayer. The Western, Middle Eastern, and traditional Jewish elements are fused here with highly moving results.

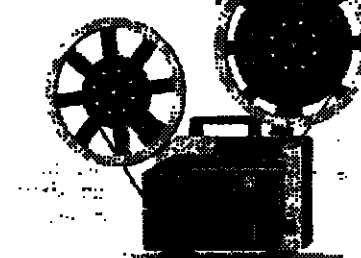
Alongside "El Nora Alila," De'or, Ankri, and Olearchik present a few more examples of this fusion in the live show. These other songs, unfortunately, do not show up on the disc. The tunes serve up a unique combination of ingredients that feel very right together. They draw on the reservoir of Jewish culture while at the same time acknowledging the musical realities of modern Israel. Too many Israeli bands today churn out tuneless copies of American or British rock, disconnected from the uniqueness of this place. While it may be too early to declare a musical revolution, the songs collected on De'or and Ankri's live disc may very well be a signpost for a new and very Israeli musical form.



The on-stage chemistry between Etti Ankri and David De'or comes through on their new joint album.

Cinematic fireworks from the East

Movie Roundup



By Adina Hoffman

The coolly stylized Japanese cop movie, *Hana-Bi*, and the raw Iranian social drama, *The Apple*, are about as dissimilar as two films could be, but they complement each other in a variety of rich ways. Each of the foreign-language, non-European movies is among the most interesting pictures to reach theaters here in a long time, each won a major international award (the Grand Prize at the '97 Venice Film Festival and the Jury Prize at the '98 Cannes Festival, respectively), each relies on a concrete organizing symbol, each reckons in some way with its culture's strict notions of honor, and each subjects its characters, and the audience, to a grueling tug-of-war between violence and tenderness. Neither is easy to sit through; both are well worth the effort.

HANA-BI (KIREWORKS)

★★★★

Written & directed by Takeshi Kitano. Hebrew title: *Zikukin dinor*. 103 minutes. Japanese dialogue, Hebrew and English subtitles. Not recommended for children.

THE APPLE

★★★★

Directed by Samira Makhmalbaf. Written and edited by Mohsen Makhmalbaf. Hebrew title: *HaTupach*. 85 minutes. Parsi dialogue, Hebrew and English subtitles (Tel Aviv). Not recommended for children.

Hana-Bi (literally "fireworks," though when split with a hyphen and translated, the title means "flower-fire") is an extremely brutal movie interrupted by moments of shocking pathos. *The Apple*, on the other hand, is a movie whose gentle, nearly childlike surface is carefully designed to reveal in increments the spiritual cruelty that typifies the lives of two particular young Teheran girls - and by metaphorical extension, the lives of all women in Iran.

The movies also have glaring differences that come, in no small part, from the radically varied backgrounds of their creators. Takeshi Kitano, who directed, wrote, co-edited, and stars, under his stage name "Beat" Takeshi, in *Hana-Bi* - performing all his jobs with an immaculate formal sense and absolute, lyric control - has more experience than ten ordinary artists/public figures combined. Cartoonist, standup comic, novelist, poet, painter, newspaper columnist and participant in no less than seven (!) weekly TV pro-

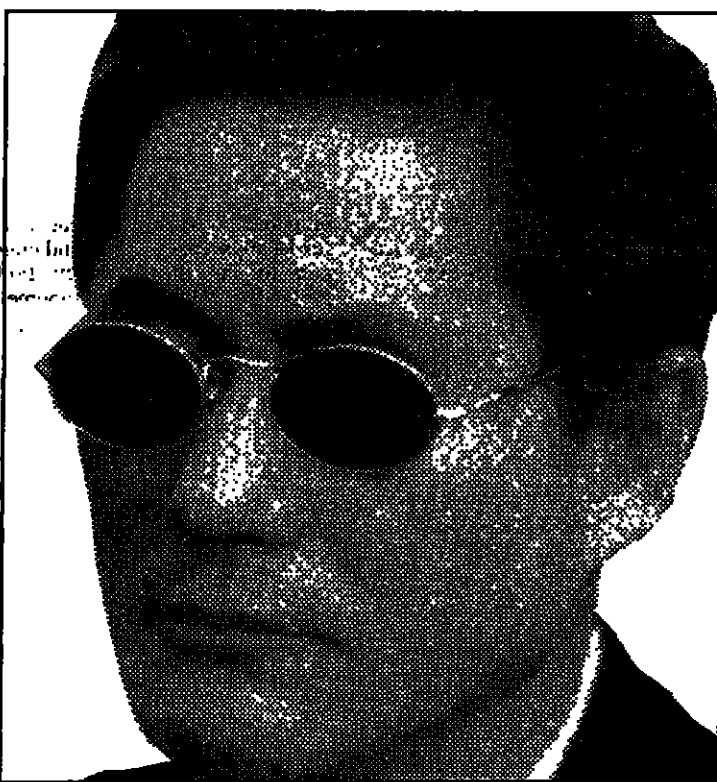
grams, Kitano seems too charismatic to be true, a kind of one-man media conglomerate, though much of the power of *Hana-Bi* derives from his ability to tuck all this frenzied energy away, and store it behind an impassive Noh mask. (Kitano was severely wounded in a motorcycle accident several years ago, and half of his face paralyzed, a plain anatomical fact that somehow informs the structure and feel of the entire movie, which alternates, like the scarred halves of Kitano's eerie countenance, between convulsive motion and rest.)

His onscreen performance, as the broken policeman Nishi, who has lost two colleagues to murder or injury and whose wife is dying of leukemia as their child did before her, is one of remarkable balance - between anger and calm, comedy and tragedy, steeliness and sentimentality - and the whole film seems to flow from his poised dual bearing. The story is also at once austere in its pulchritudine, and complex, with flashbacks and forward-glances folding and folding back in on themselves like the petals of the brilliant flowers that form the heads of the figures that Nishi's wheelchair-bound former partner, Horibe (Ren Osugi), draws to sustain himself. These exquisitely - almost painfully - colorful felt-tip-pen works (also the director's own handiwork), often punctuate the action, filling the screen with their weird luminosity and serving as further static counterpoint to the fluidly dynamic action.

Hana-Bi is made up of shifts that are often bizarre and blackly comic, all haunted by the specter of death. In order to provide the suicidal Horibe with art supplies and to take his own ailing wife (Kayoko Kishimoto) on a final vacation, for instance, Nishi robs a bank. No less drastic than this contrast between the character's saintly and devilish impulses is the fact that, in the midst of all this hushed morbidity, Kitano-the-director conceives the robbery as comic diversion, a regular slapstick escapade. It's clear that the filmmaker is interested in tracing not just the actions of a good cop gone bad, but in examining the state of grace that can visit a man who feels he has nothing left to lose: Nishi's sudden, no-holds-barred kindness toward the people closest to him might be redemptive in some other context, except that here it goes hand in hand with a vicious self-destructive urge, and a campaign of ruthless brutality toward his enemies.

The director alternates between staring these grisly details right in the face (or in the eye: in one especially hard-to-take scene, this is where a yakuza finds his chopstick) and affecting a stance of complete, stony detachment. (We view one shoot-out from an angelic angle up above and another fistfight as a dance of tilting shadows.) *Hana-Bi* is a study in radical extremes - a horror film of whispery butterfly beauty.

AS EXPERT and supremely in charge as Kitano the Renaissance man is, Samira Makhmalbaf is not.



Takeshi Kitano directed, wrote, co-edited and stars in 'Hana Bi.'

Best known in her native country as the daughter of acclaimed director Mohsen Makhmalbaf, she makes her feature-length debut with *The Apple* at the ripe old age of 18. While Kitano appears to have personally carried out the tasks usually assigned an entire, extensive film crew, Makhmalbaf was helped by her father, whose role as screenwriter and editor seems a nebulous one. (Where, in such a case, do the roles of director and editor merge?) The work is probably more honestly described as a father-daughter collaboration, and its thematic and formal concerns are an obvious extension of those taken up by the elder Makhmalbaf in films like *Salam Cinema* and *A Moment of Innocence*, and by their countryman Abbas Kiarostami, whose fascinating movie *Close Up* tells the true story of an unemployed Teheran man who coos a family into thinking he is the famous Mohsen Makhmalbaf.

Wondering who is or isn't responsible for *The Apple*, though, is probably beside the point. No matter how you slice the credits, it's a wonderful film, and one that exists far beyond the traditional, ego-conscious context of cinematic personality cult (of star, director, etc.). The movie's low-tech, collaborative nature runs deep, as it engages in a fresh and piercing way the same vital questions of representation that concern all the members of this inspired group of Iranian filmmakers. In the simplest terms (which turn out to be quite complicated and mysterious), the movie restages a real-life event: two young girls have been locked in their house by their blind mother and terrified, protective father; the neighbors in their poor Teheran quarter complain to the authorities and a social worker intervenes. Threatening to remove the children from their home, she tries to convince the parents to let the girls out into the street and to take better care of them.

The "actors" who appear here are

the actual people involved in the incident, though the movie is plainly not a documentary. While the "characters" recite lines (or in the girls' case, gurgle and grunt in an incomprehensible private language) that were written and memorized, it is never clear exactly how much they are playing a part or "pretending": in this way *The Apple* takes shape as a humanistic film in the truest and most meaningful sense, its rough design skillfully conceived to involve us in the textures of the characters' hopes and fears and so extend empathy to all of them - the sheltering father, stern social worker, sometimes idiotic-seeming girls - beyond easy notions of good and evil. Unlike Kitano's deliberately contrived archetypes, these are real people, and the dramatic stakes are therefore much, much higher, the ironies that encircle them infinitely harsher.

Take, for example, the extrajudicial father, so intent on honoring God by preserving his daughters' honor he is strangling them, destroying two of his creatures. Though this character might sound like an irredeemable bully or straw man concocted to float the film's feminist message, Makhmalbaf manages to depict him in believably vulnerable - even loving - terms. He may be misguided, but he genuinely wants what is best for his daughters.

But to say that the film has an explicit anti-idolatrous or anti-fundamentalist agenda might mean to overlook the quality of playfulness and wonder that underlies much of the action. The movie is cleverly constructed yet free of all gimmicks, a work of startling faith - not just in people, but in the cinema and what it can achieve, as art and as social protest. While *Hana-Bi* raps its main character's death wish in the darkly elegant tones of a celluloid funeral dirge, *The Apple* uses the sparest and the hungriest terms to cry out - for freedom and for life.

Seeking Jewish music

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Why are most of our orchestras presenting so-called Jewish music in their respective series in the coming few weeks?

The Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba has a series of concerts titled *The Jewish Linkage* (October 22-29) that include Mendelssohn's Second Piano Concerto and one of his overtures, as well as a suite from Kurt Weill's *The Threepenny Opera*. It is great to have Jewish music programs - you could say it's the duty of our orchestras - but with all due respect, Mendelssohn's music is anything but Jewish and to feature him as the major composer in a so-called Jewish evening is quite misleading. Or is it?

Mendelssohn was born to very prominent, wealthy Jewish parents, Abraham and Lea Mendelssohn, who considered their cultural life a first priority. As a result, their son was able to develop his musical talents. Mendelssohn's father later added the name Bartholdy to

distinguish his family from those who remained loyal to Judaism.

Bottom-line, Mendelssohn is as far from a real Jewish composer and indigenous Jewish music as one could get. And although Weill was a Jew, there is nothing Jewish about his music, aside of some specific works. *The Threepenny Opera* is not one of them.

The Kibbutz Chamber Orchestra also plays Mendelssohn, his most Jewish opus (last week and on Tuesday in Megiddo). But the reason d'être behind presenting the oratorio *Elijah* is not its Jewish link but the orchestra's yearning to perform large choral works at the opening of every season.

One of the most Jewish pieces of all times, Max Bruch's *Kol Nidrei*, is presented at the opening season series of the Haifa Symphony Orchestra (October 15-24). Bruch took the familiar Ashkenazi tune of this holiest of prayers and transformed it in the magical voice of the cello (as the cantor) and the piano or orchestra (as the congregation).

This is pure Jewish music at its most emotional level.

But if you seek major Jewish-oriented works, the place to hear them is in Ra'anana. And the Symphonette is about to present the Israeli premiere (October 17-24) of Joseph Green's *The Sacrifice of Isaac*. Green's work focuses on the history of sacrifice as a major connecting thread of Jewish history.

The Symphonette presents such music as part of its artistic credo while other orchestras try to ride on the so-called Jewish link more often than not in a rather artificial way. Be that as it may, we should be proud of the Jewish nation's great composers and vast musical heritage. Yet, if our orchestras really want to cherish our own musical traditions, they should go beyond the obvious and present music by composers less often performed in the concert hall. The list is endless, but unfortunately most local music organizations stick with the tried and true. Inventiveness and ingenuity are very seldom found on our musical shores.

'High Bias': Higher volume

SUNDAY JAZZ

By David Hirschman

A band that's raw and polished at the same time: Following its startling eponymous debut on Chick Corea's Stretch Records, the bass-drums-keyboards group of Billy Sheehan, Dennis Chambers

HIGH BIAS

Niacin

(MCI)

INTO THE SUN

Randy Brecker

(MCI)

and John Novello (with occasional help from Corea) serves up another helping of heavy fusion on *High Bias*.

Niacin sounds like an uncompromising, post-grunge Weather Report - fittingly, virtually the only cover of the 11 cuts is a take-no-prisoners "Birdland." It could be that this serious trio remain musicians' musicians not destined for great commercial success. On the other hand, the band might just represent the future.

High Bias goes to places that would scare trip-hoppers and techno freaks, let alone old rockers. Sounding something like Billy Cobham, drummer Chambers displays amazing power and the ability to cross rhythms while staying just ahead of the beat. Sheehan's bass is deep and dark, yet his considered anchors exemplify the mature bassist's less-is-more approach.

And the wonders of modern recording enable Novello to provide electronic swathes of sound and detailed acoustic piano passages simultaneously.

If you like your music very loud, give *High Bias* a whirl.

TRUMPETER Randy Brecker seems to enjoy playing in this country - his next appearances here, accompanied by singer Mark Murphy, are slated for late December. I hope that he doesn't subject local fans to too much of *Into The Sun*.

Following the example of Dizzy Gillespie, Randy Brecker draws the inspiration for this disc from South American samba and bossa nova. But whereas Gillespie would throw himself into the replication of Latin rhythms, Brecker incorporates them into an

already congested mix of fusion, soft funk and modern jazz.

There are some nice moments - "The Szeaze Factor" is reminiscent of Brecker's former glories, such as 1969's *Score*. On that disc Brecker was accompanied by brother Michael on tenor sax; tellingly, "The Szeaze Factor" is the only cut here to include sax support, from guest David Sanborn.

Brecker is a wonderful trumpeter and bandleader, and Gil Goldstein is a keyboardist to watch out for. But their co-production of *Into the Sun*, with its layered horns and occasional processed vocal backing, to say nothing of a whimsical tribute to Brecker's musician father Bobby, is murky. When colors are mixed like this, the result resembles mud.

"Not new times" ESRAVISION ON T.V. CHANNEL 9			
Consumer Tidbits; Adler Parenting Guide; Private Pools; Other Peoples' Houses; 50th Ann. Volunteer Awards; ESRA Events			
TEVEL - GUSH DAN & NORTHERN AREAS	Sundays	5:30 p.m.	
	Wednesdays	5:00 p.m.	
SOUTHERN AREAS	Sundays	4:30 p.m.	
	Tuesdays	4:30 p.m.	
MATAV - NETANYA AREA	Mon. & Wed.	7:30 p.m.	
BAT-YAM / HOLON AREA	Sundays	7:30 p.m.	
	Tuesdays	7:00 p.m.	
HAIFA - TOWN AREA	Mondays	5:00 p.m.	
	Wednesdays	5:30 p.m.	
GALILEE (Tiberias to K. Shimon)	Sundays	5:00 p.m.	
	Wednesdays	4:30 p.m.	
	Thursdays	8:00 p.m.	
IDAN - CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN AREA	Mondays 4:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m.		
	Saturdays at 5:00 p.m.		
ARUTZET ZAHAV - DAN / SHARON / SOUTH JERUSALEM AND ELAT	Tuesdays 9:30 a.m. & 8:30 p.m.		
	Tuesdays 9:30 a.m. & 8:30 p.m.		
GUANIM - CENTRAL AREA (Mod'in etc.)	Mondays 3:30 p.m. & 8:30 p.m.		
KRAYOT AREA	Mondays 3:00 p.m.		

Momentous era brought to life

Choose a mate for healthier children



By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

Hakamat Hamedina U'shnoteha Harishonot 1947-1955. (The Establishment of the State and its Early Years 1947-1955), a CD-ROM in Hebrew by the Center for Educational Technology (www.cet.ac.il), used with Windows 3.1 or Windows 95, for pupils from seventh grade and through students and adults, NIS 249.

Rating: ★★★★★

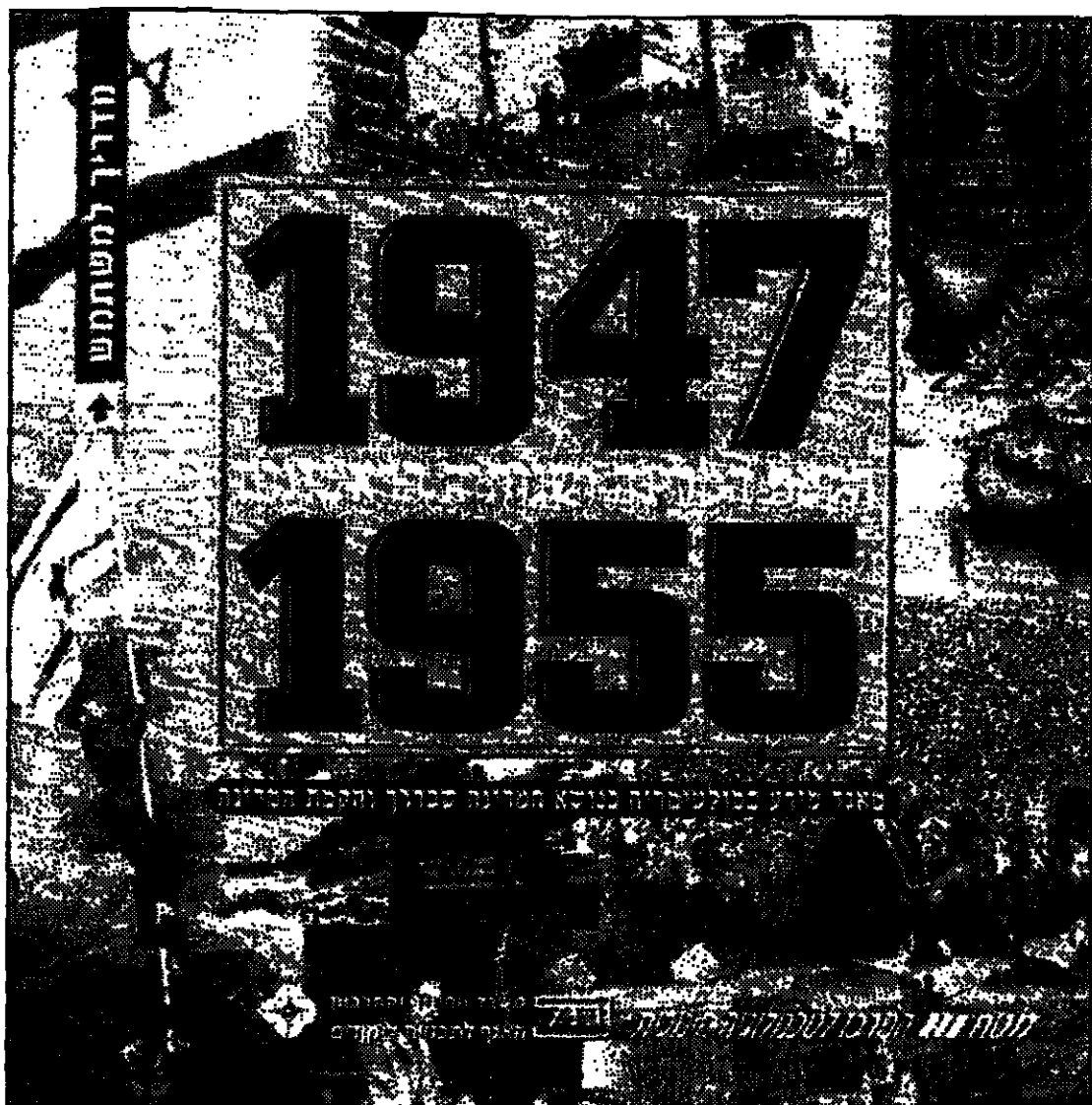
Anyone who studies this massive program assiduously is guaranteed to get a grade of 100 on any history exam dealing with this subject; in fact, he'll undoubtedly know much more about the early years of the State of Israel than the person who wrote the text.

Staff at Ramat Aviv's nonprofit Center for Educational Technology, a producer of consistently high-quality software for school and home, have outdone themselves with this outstanding multimedia database.

It is a collaborative effort of CET, Tel Aviv University's School of Education and the Education Ministry's Telem (curriculum) branch, coordinated by the ministry's Haya Regev and Dr. Avigail Oren of TAU. An impressive team, including former Knesset clerk Netanel Lorch and former MK Dr. Mordechai Bar-On, were involved in the project.

The disk, introduced by TV host Daniel Pe'er, opens with a video clip of David Ben-Gurion declaring the establishment of the state in his high-pitched voice. The user is then presented with an opening screen that looks like an actual desktop with drawers, a calendar, videocassette, picture frame, calculator, microphone and memo board, each representing resources to help you find what you need. A useful help menu is available on line.

There are a total of 950 different entries: If you want only those that contain video clips (there are 39 of these), for example, click the videocassette symbol and the program sorts them out; select the picture frame and you get a list of 227 entries with photographs, plus some newspa-



per caricatures from those years, charts and graphs.

The drawers represent categories of subjects, such as Major Processes (War of Independence, formulation of the government and the early Fifties); Important Events (as the young nation, diplomatic affairs, military campaigns and aliya and immigration); Fields of Occurrences (diplomatic, economic security, social and demographic); Positions and Views (parties, nations, leadership, etc.); and Documentation of the Era (research, communications, documents and art).

An advanced search engine, using Boolean logic, is in the disk to locate exactly what you want. The prolific text is like an encyclopedia, with colored, hypertext links to additional material or a dictionary that explains terms, all reached with a single click. There are first-person accounts as well, such as Golda Meir's account in *My Life* about immigration of Yemenite Jews.

The video clips are especially captivating: See the lowering of

the Union Jack in front of the King David Hotel on the last day of the British Mandate; Chaim Weizmann being sworn in as the first president; Lova Ellav being interviewed about food rationing during the early years of shortages; Eli Amir speaking about the suffering of new immigrants in their transit camps, and newcomers producing bricks by hand to build new homes.

The program includes a notebook for writing down your own thoughts and collecting short bits of information, plus the use of Microsoft Word to process text, photographs and tables from the database for producing your own reports (don't plagiarize, even though the ease of copying text makes this tempting). All the material can be printed out on your printer.

After studying a subject, the program can give you "assignments" in the form of boxes to be filled out. For example, you may be asked to "make believe you lived in Jerusalem between November 29, 1947 and May 15, 1948. Write about events, with descriptions, from a personal

angle."

The authors also prove themselves to be very sensitive: showing a young immigrant girl standing at the front of her miserable tent in a transit camp, the user is asked to "Think and describe how she might have felt..."

My only (mild) criticism of this excellent piece of software is that CET should have chosen a font for the text of the database material that's easier on the eye; aside from this, *Hakamat Hamedina U'shnoteha Harishonot* is a first-class effort that will contribute much to the understanding of that momentous era.

What a shame it isn't in English for the use of scholars and laymen abroad.

Hebrew Game Time, a diskette in Hebrew and English, by Davka (tel. (02) 9992936), for Windows 3.1 or Windows 95, for elementary-school-age children, NIS 129.

Rating: ★★★★★

THIS is a low-budget program made in 1996, and its primitive graphics and content are glaring

compared to slick multimedia CD-ROMs available for learning basic Hebrew. The audience for this diskette is apparently Diaspora youngsters who know some (but not much) Hebrew, or Sunday school classes.

There are three separate games: Hebrew Hangman, Word Attack and Word Zapper.

The hangman game is like the hangman people used to play on paper, except that it says Oy Vey if you fail to guess the word from the Hebrew alphabet before your chances run out. The Yiddish exclamation is cute the first time, but it soon becomes silly.

The object of the game is to choose of 10 categories (including professions, fruits, household, names, verbs and family) listed in English. You're then presented with blanks representing a word and asked to click Hebrew letters you think make up the word while working against a ticking clock and scoring or losing points.

The user can add a word to an existing category or add a whole new category with not much difficulty.

The Word Attack Game presents 10 Hebrew words in two rows on the bottom of the screen. English translations in red rain down from the top, and you have to click the meaning of the word from among the 10 before your time runs out.

It includes nine levels of difficulty, and when you finish one level, you automatically go on to the next. The speed of the game can be adjusted and points are awarded or deducted.

The Word Zapper game (an entirely different name should have been chosen to prevent confusion with the second game) presents 25 English words in a grid that keep changing places. At the bottom of the screen is a Hebrew word from a category you chose (animals, body, communication words, food or time), and you have to click the translation from the grid.

But Windows 95 users who have their "toolbar" on the bottom of the screen will find that it hides the bottom half of the word; they will have to move the toolbar to the side, which is very annoying, in order to play the game. The Word Zapper also allows the addition of new categories, each of which can hold up to two dozen words.

The problem with this program is that, in the absence of an online dictionary, there is no place from which to learn the words — and if you already know them, why bother to play the game?

The unsophisticated graphics don't justify the NIS 129 price.

By PHIL WILLIAMS

ATHENS, Georgia — In the game of dating, the word "chemistry" has nothing to do with the periodic table of the elements. Nothing's worse than finding out there's no "chemistry" with your date.

When something just doesn't feel right, and you say, "There was just no chemistry between us," you may be more right than you know.

A new study by geneticists at the University of Georgia shows that when female fruit flies are given a choice between mates, their offspring live longer as adults than females who have only a single mate from which to choose.

The research is bringing new insights into both female choice and male competition.

"We know there are fitness consequences to sexual selection, but past studies have largely focused on juvenile survival," said Dr. Daniel Promislow, one of three geneticists who worked on the project.

"Our results focus on adults, and we showed that the process of sexual selection can lead to a genetically related increase in the components of adult fitness."

The research, which was partially supported by a grant from the National Institute on Aging, was published in the latest *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

Drosophila melanogaster, a variety of fruit fly, is ideal for studying the process of sexual selection. Instead of going to singles bars or athletic clubs, the pin-head-size flies will readily mate anywhere, even in test tubes.

Much of what scientists know of sexual selection models has come from studying these tiny creatures. Promislow's idea with the current research was to test the so-called "good genes" model which proposes that female preference for certain male traits evolves because that male trait is an indicator of genetic quality.

THE study presented some thorny problems.

First, many — if not most — animal signals may fall outside the range of unassisted human perception.

Second, very little is known about adult fitness components and how females select mates to pass them on to offspring.

And many previous studies have focused largely on observable appearance and how it relates to female choosiness or male attractiveness.

"We attempted to avoid each of these potential pitfalls by using an artificial selection approach in which we varied levels of selection over multiple generations," said Promislow.

To do this, Promislow and his co-authors, Emily Smith and Louise Pearce, created two sets of artificial selection lines of *D. melanogaster*. In the first or "S" line, they reduced the opportunity for sexual selection by mating one virgin male and female in each vial.

In the second or "M" line, they placed one female with five males so that female choice and male competition would come into play.

Not every vial was the site of a hot romance. Even in some of the "S" vials, females chose not to mate rather than consort with the bug chosen for them. To adjust for such problems, the researchers carried out three complete replications per treatment over 10 generations and compared offspring for such qualities as age-specific adult survival, larval competitive ability, wing size and sex-comb tooth number. (The sex comb is a structure resembling a pointed hair comb with long teeth. It is found only on the legs of males and is used to sense females.)

THE study also compared so-called fluctuating asymmetry between the lines for wing size and sex-comb tooth number. Fluctuating asymmetry refers to subtle changes in bilateral symmetry — for instance, if one of your eyes is higher than the other. For some of these traits, there was little difference in offspring between the "M" and "S" lines. The significant difference, however, came in adult survivorship.

"We found that the females and males in the 'M' lines lived significantly longer than the 'S' line males and females," said Promislow.

This fact supports the proposition that females with a choice of mates are able to select males whose genetic makeup gives their offspring a chance for a longer life-span. The choice may also account even for an increase in body size.

The most important finding is the confirmation that adult survival rates increased in populations with an increased opportunity for sexual selection. The result is consistent with the idea that females choose males on the basis of relatively high genetic quality. It was clear that enforced monogamy was bad news for the "S" lines of flies.

The research opens some new doors for investigation, though much remains unknown. In the meantime, the current study confirms the validity of at least one model of sexual selection.

"We wanted to provide an explicit test of the 'good genes' model," said Promislow. "But I don't think we will ever find one unifying model that explains the patterns of sexual selection in all organisms." (University of Georgia News Service)

Giant globe makes your head spin

By DAVID SHARP

YARMOUTH, Maine — This is not the ordinary globe kids spin round and round in elementary school classrooms. In fact, it wouldn't even fit in a classroom.

This globe is 12.8 meters in diameter, consisting of a surface of 792 pieces, some as large as 120 by 90 cm., which are attached to a frame of 6,120 pieces of tubular aircraft aluminum. It weighs 2,540 kg.

DeLorme mapping company says the globe that dominates the lobby at its headquarters is the biggest in the world.

"It's fun to look at those little globes. But you look at this one and say, 'Wow!'" said Jeff Clark, a map technician responsible for each of the plastic panels that cover the DeLorme creation.

Dubbed "Eartha," the globe was the brainchild of David DeLorme, founder of the map and software company. And it's meant to showcase the technology that goes into maps and mapping software.

All 200 workers were involved in Eartha's creation, from months of work establishing a computer database for the project, to the task of printing and laminating the surface on plastic panels, to the tedious job of snapping the pieces into place like a jigsaw puzzle.

"No one's ever really built a globe this big before, so we sort of wrote the book as we went along," Clark said.

A physics professor from prestigious Bowdoin College helped workers figure out how much weight the structure could support. A West Bath company was enlisted to help build the aluminum frame and support arm.

The computer database used to bring Eartha's surface alive with colorful detail showing topography, vegetation and ocean depth took more than a year to create. Sometimes, computers ran 24 hours a day.

DeLorme said there were no price limitations on the globe, and he doesn't care to know how much it cost to make it.

"I don't know and I don't want to know," DeLorme said.

Had he known how much the globe would cost, DeLorme said, he probably never would have



Globes have long captured people's imaginations by putting the world at their fingertips, literally.

undertaken the task of building it.

WHILE DeLorme bills Eartha as the largest globe, it has yet to earn that distinction from the *Guinness Book of Records*. The current record is held by Orfeo Bartolucci's "Globe of Peace," a revolving sphere in Italy that is 10 meters in diameter, said Vanessa Law, a spokeswoman for Guinness Publishing in London.

DeLorme is working with Guinness officials and plans to submit paperwork before the May deadline for the next book published in 2000, said Mary Jo Whitworth, a company spokeswoman.

One option is to establish two categories — with the largest globe going to DeLorme and the heaviest globe going to Globe of Peace, which weighs in at a whopping 30 tons, Whitworth said.

No decision has been made, and Guinness will review DeLorme's paperwork when it's submitted, Law said.

As for DeLorme's globe, it's hard to miss. It is plainly visible inside the company's three-story glass atrium from Interstate 95, where commuters sometimes crane their necks to see it.

Eartha is one-millionth the size of the real thing, which works out to one Eartha inch (2.5 cm.), equaling nearly 16 Earth miles (25 km.). Eartha tilts at 23.5 degrees just as the Earth does.

And it revolves on a specially designed cantilever arm and rotates on an axis, with one combined revolution and rotation each minute at maximum speed.

The globe was completed in July when David DeLorme put the last piece into place with help from Governor Angus King. Hundreds of workers and guests cheered the milestone.

Recognizing the significance of the event, DeLorme employees dressed up for the occasion instead of wearing the T-shirts, flip-flops and shorts that are acceptable attire on most days. Even DeLorme wore a coat and tie.

DeLorme said his creation is a symbol of how far the company has come since he started making maps at his kitchen table, and a symbol for the new millennium as the world continues to get smaller. He plans to release several Eartha-related products, including a paper atlas, and a CD-ROM of the world featuring a three-dimensional view of the Earth.

Most of all, DeLorme hopes Eartha will be an inspiration — as it was for a three-year-old who visited recently with her parents.

"She took five steps, and with a fresh insight only a child of that age can have, she spread out her arms wide and let out a scream of joy that resounded throughout this place," he said. (AP)



By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

THE two cellular phone companies (until Partner gets into its stride) are fighting over whose voice dialling system is better. When Cellcom announced its new service, Pelephone called to remind the public that it had had a voice-dialling system for over a year.

But there are differences. Cellcom subscribers can dial a phone number merely by saying the name of the person or institution (in Hebrew or English) using any Cellcom phone, in the car and out. But they have to pay NIS 13 each month for the privilege.

Pelephone subscribers don't pay a monthly fee for Pele-Kol service, but they can voice dial only from their cars, with an additional device that they have to purchase for NIS 500.

Although foreign studies have shown that people using cellular phones while driving have many more accidents than those who don't — even if they have a no-hands dialling and speaking system — many Israeli car owners converse while driving, too many of them illegally while holding their cell phone in one hand and the steering wheel in another.

Outside the car, dialling automatically by saying the name (after programming it in advance) is convenient for saving time, although one can already program individual numbers on most cellular phones by dialling a one- or two-digit code. One can also say any phone number, even one you haven't programmed into the phone, and it will dial automatically.

Cellcom president and CEO Ya'acov Pery says the new service makes cell phones much friendlier and easier to operate. The service was tried out as an experiment by 1,000 Cellcom subscribers and

declared "a success."

ELECTRONIC CASH ON CAMPUS

Mondex, the electronic wallet company, has launched its service at the Sapir Academic College in Ashkelon after pilot programs were carried out in Nes Ziona and Rehovot. All 7,000 students are entitled to receive a smart card allowing them to "fill" it electronically and use it to operate photostat and beverage machines, as well as access to the library and computer rooms.

Company marketing director Ziv Halevy said that students are a natural clientele for smart-card electronic wallets, and the system can do away with the use of cash altogether. The rest of the public will get their chance in the year 1999.

COMPUTER MEDALS

Heavy with silver and bronze medals, Israel's team of young people returned recently from the 10th International Computer Science Olympics, held in Portugal. The team, trained and dispatched by the Israel Information Technology Association (IITA), had four members.

Of the four, Yahav Nussbaum of Nahalal who won two silver medals (last year he captured one) and Uri Barkai of Ramat Hasharon and Eyal Rosenberg of Haifa each brought home one bronze apiece.

They competed against 289 teenagers representing 60 countries, and were themselves chosen from among 150 Israeli finalists.

"The computer Olympics is one of the many activities that our association carries out to help develop awareness among young people of technological professions before their army service and towards academic studies," said IITA chairman Amiram Shor.

MORE FOR SPACE

Science Minister Silvan Shalom has decided to double the amount his ministry allocates for space research to NIS 2.2 million, noting that the field is a central one for advancement of technological, industrial and telecommunications in the future. The success of the Technion's Gurwin Techsat II



When you need two hands for safe steering, voice-activated dialling is a blessing. (Moshe Shal)

satellite, launched in the summer, would not have been possible without a Science Ministry grant. Shalom also decided to restore grants to social sciences, a field whose ministry allocations were abolished altogether by his predecessor Michael Eitan. The field will now get NIS 1 million a year.

LOW-LIFE ON MARS?

If you're worried about little green men living on Mars, you can relax. While scientists speculate about the possibility of life on Mars, a team of researchers has calculated that the red planet probably had enough energy for

life to begin but not to create an Earth-like abundance. Even over billions of years, the energy available from volcanic activity and geothermal vents would support much less life than on Earth, the scientists report in the latest issue of the *Journal of Geophysical Research*.

There probably "was sufficient energy available to support the origin of life on Mars but not sufficient energy to create a ubiquitous and lush biosphere." Bruce Jakosky of the University of Colorado, Boulder, and Everett Shock of Washington University in St. Louis told Associated Press.

150 من الاموال

A wonderland for disabled youngsters

A multi-storey villa overlooking one of Jerusalem's most stunning views will soon be opening to expand the horizons of 85 severely incapacitated children and young adults who live at home. **Judy Siegel-Itzkovich** writes about Shalva

With a riot of colorful cartoon characters on the walls and ceilings, with wooden beds designed like cars and touch-screen computers, it looks like a home that might be built by a doting Walt Disney for his grandchildren.

In fact, it's a home-away-from-home for 85 children and young adults from the Jerusalem area who suffer from severe mental and physical disabilities, but whose parents want to keep them at home instead of in a full-time institution.

A five-storey villa in the capital's Har Nof quarter, overlooking one of the most beautiful views in the city, has been transformed into a veritable wonderland – a feast for the eyes and other senses of disabled young people.

The building – originally a small, incomplete shell – was expanded, designed and furnished by Shalva, the Israel Association to Relieve the Handicapped Child and Family. It was named Beit Nachshon, in memory of Nachshon Wachsmann, the young soldier who was kidnapped and murdered by terrorists near Jerusalem; his brother Rafael, born with Down Syndrome, is a regular participant in Shalva's activities.

Meaning "peace of mind," the voluntary organization was established in 1990 by Malky and Kalman Samuels, the parents of Yosef, now 21, who went deaf and blind after receiving a tainted diphtheria-whopping cough vaccination at 11 months. Ironically, Yosef himself has never used Shalva's facilities, but in gratitude for his ability to understand signing on his palm – thanks to the dedicated efforts of a blind teacher, Shoshana Weinstein – the Samuels decided to devote themselves to other handicapped children in need of intensive stimu-

lation. Yosef, a very bright young man, studies at the Institute for the Blind a few kilometers away, and learns Talmud with a volunteer from the nearby Mercaz Harav Yeshiva.

WITH all its frenetic activity, Shalva had to wander from one rented facility to another, but now it has a magnificent building of its own, thanks to donors in the US, Europe and Israel. The entire project will cost \$2 million and eventually encompass seven floors and 1,000 square meters of space.

In recognition of their selfless work, the Samuels received the prestigious President's Volunteering Award from Ezer Weizman in 1994.

Kalman, a former Canadian who is in charge of information services at the US-Israel Binational Science Foundation, acceded with trepidation when his wife said that they just "had to have" the building, which originally contained only 350 square meters.

But when donations to purchase the property at 6 Rehov Even Denan came in, the Samuels' workers dug down and found they had hit paydirt – soft landfill which allowed the construction of many additional rooms on the side of a hill overlooking Beit Zayit.

Malky's impressive good taste, keen attention to detail and understanding of what will stimulate children who have cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, hyperactivity, deafness, autism and various types of developmental problems is evident throughout the building.

A Breslav hassid and penitent Jew who is a talented artist painted dozens of murals all over the walls: Beauty and the Beast in the storytelling room, an orchestra of instruments in the music room, Mickey Mouse traipsing down the



Shalva's walls feed the senses: Beauty and the Beast in the storytelling room, an orchestra in the music room, Mickey Mouse traipsing down the stairs, and soap bubbles leading the way to Goofy taking a shower near a bathroom.

stairs and Goofy taking a shower near one of the main bathrooms, with blue soap bubbles leading the way. Even the bathroom tiles on each floor are punctuated with animated designs.

Each storey has a different color scheme to help youngsters orient themselves. ONE large room, which children enter in stocking feet, is the "Snoezelen," a multi-sensory area dedicated in memory of Raoul Wallenberg. It contains a waterbed and lots of white-covered vinyl foam, giving the sensation of being in a cocoon.

A first in Jerusalem, this new therapeutic resource was developed in Holland, where it has been used in the treatment and education of very disabled children.

The Dutch word *snoezelen* is a contraction of the words meaning *sniffing and dozing*, as it promotes the conception and sensation of relaxation. Laser beams and optic fibers rain patterns of light on the walls, ceiling and floor, providing stimulation, a hypnotic effect and a sense of security.

This magical milieu encourages touch, taste, smell, hearing, vision

and movement, providing a positive medium for youngsters who find conventional activities difficult to access.

The physiotherapy-movement room is used by occupational and physical therapists to promote and refine motor development in children who have cerebral palsy or developmental delays. In contrast to the white Snoezelen, it's full of primary colors and foam-covered equipment in a variety of sense-stimulating shapes.

THE dedication took place last Wednesday, and the building's doors will open to the youngsters in a few weeks as the Samuels race to collect more money for finishing the kitchen and other facilities.

Shalva gets no government funds, depending solely for development and maintenance on tax-exempt private donations.

Kalman says he never asks the parents for money, as they already have enough financial burdens. "They could institutionalize their children at state expense, but they bear much of the burden themselves," he says. "Shalva saves the state a lot of money."

But the outstanding physical

facilities are only part of the story: Shalva couldn't function without the caring and expertise of 20 professional staffers (special education teachers, occupational therapists and music therapists) and 100 volunteers, including 10 national service girls who will live in at the site.

Open 19 hours a day at its present site in Rehov Shaullon, Shalva gives parents a breather when their children finish school in the early afternoon.

"They're bussed from 21 different schools in the Jerusalem area – secular and religious, boys and girls, young men and women," says Kalman, giving a tour of the new building.

The variety of activities go on from Shabbat through Thursdays; on Fridays the parents are free to be with their children.

The afternoon program, from 1 to 6 p.m., caters to 40 children aged three to 14 who enjoy art, music, cooking and games, and are taken back to their parents after a home-cooked dinner. The weekly evening program, from 6 to 8 p.m., is meant for 17 teenagers and young adults 16 and over who have low levels of functioning.



The overnight program, from 6 p.m. to 8 the next morning, allows youngsters to stay over for dinner and breakfast, enjoying a large variety of social and educational activities and freeing their families for a well-deserved 36-hour respite. Participants make their beds, dress themselves and even learn to cook. In the new Har Nof building, (double the capacity of the old building) 20 youngsters will be able to sleep over and even enjoy the jacuzzi. Each child stays over at least one night a week.

THIS is not just babysitting: All the programs allow one-on-one stimulation involving storytelling, playing, singing and dancing; the paid and volunteer staff say they see definite progress in the kids' development.

The nonprofit organization also offers summer camps (with a two-week sleepaway program in a kibbutz) and counselling to individu-

als and groups. In addition to working with the youngsters at Shalva, volunteers visit the families' homes.

Shalva has even organized birthday parties for disabled children who can barely pick up their heads, making them feel like any other child in their best clothes, enjoying the tastiest refreshments. There are trips and pizza parties.

"When our son Yonatan comes home he's very calm because he's had hours of attention," says Freddy Lemberger. Yonatan has brain damage caused by meningitis contracted as a baby.

"He's happy when he's at Shalva. And as a result, he's at maximum capacity when he comes back home."

Shalva, at 6 Even Denan in Har Nof, or POB 35199, Jerusalem 91351, can be reached at 02-6518260. The organization's Internet site is at www.shalva.org

'I'd like a girl, please'

By ROBERT COOKE

Choosing the sex of your baby is becoming a commercial reality in the US – the many ethical and social questions notwithstanding.

Several companies – one for cows, another for horses and a third for human babies – are now performing sex selection by accurately sorting sperm well in advance of conception.

A least one baby has been born of sperm selection as practiced by a Virginia company, Genetics and IVF Institute. And a member of the staff, Edward Fugger, said, "We currently have a clinical trial ongoing in humans."

The company's first sex-selected child, a girl born in 1994, was sought by a family trying to avoid a so-called sex-linked genetic disease. Boys in the family are at risk for inheriting the disorder, while girls are not.

The girl was born healthy and normal several years ago, and Genetics and IVF Institute scientists have since been working to improve the "sexing" technique. Meanwhile, a small Colorado biotechnology company, XY Inc., recently announced it has produced the first horse through sperm sorting. The birth of the filly, named Call Me Madam, is expected to have a large impact on the practice of horse breeding.

Dozens of cows have already been born after sperm was sorted by sex. "We've got 28 pregnancies, and 27 of them are the right sex," said physiologist George Seidel of Colorado State University.

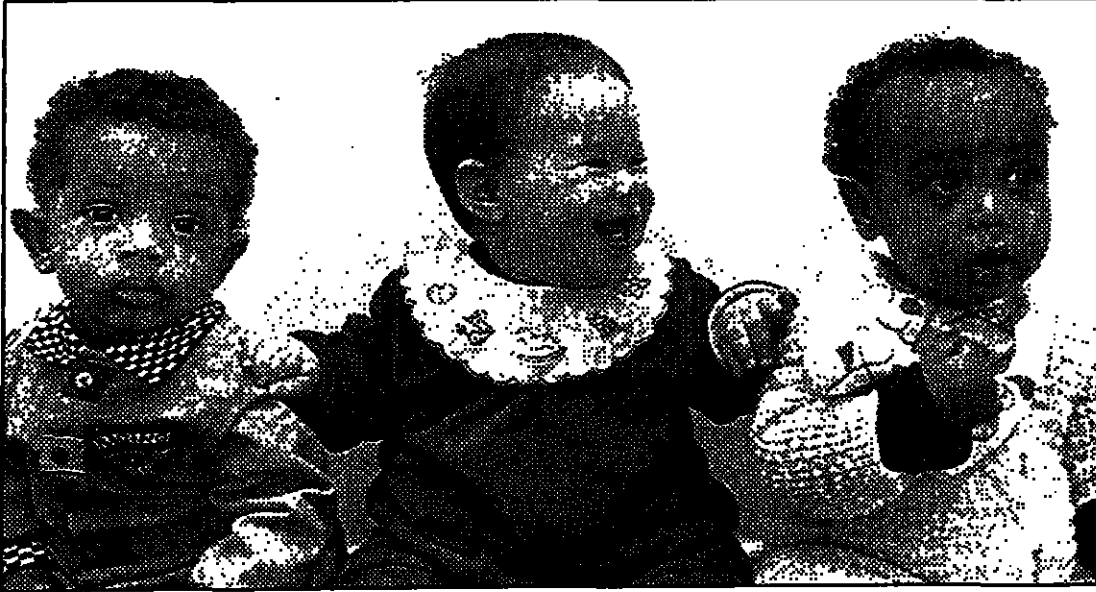
THE technology for sorting sperm reliably was invented just a decade ago by Lawrence Johnson and his colleagues at the US Department of Agriculture.

The breakthrough came in 1989, when we could separate living sperm and then use them for in vitro fertilization," Johnson said. Sex selection was first achieved in rabbits, then in pigs, then in cattle and sheep.

The sperm-sorting process has been significantly speeded up recently.

"We've had some improvements in the technology that allow us to produce five million sperm per hour – that's 10 to 12 times greater than we had a couple of years ago," Johnson said.

With ample sperm, it's possible to get pregnancies via artificial insemination, rather than the far more difficult process of in-vitro



If sexual selection via sperm-sorting becomes routine, will it spell the end of the natural balance, the almost 50-50 ratio of males to females? (Sarkis Uziel)

fertilization. The sperm-separation technique is based on a subtle biological difference between male and female sperm cells. Female sperm carry an X chromosome, and male sperm carry a Y. The X chromosomes are bigger – they contain more DNA – than Y chromosomes, and that subtle difference can be exploited.

To sort sperm according to sex, the mixture of X- and Y-bearing sperm is treated with a special DNA dye that glows when illuminated by a laser light. The tiny cells are then pushed through a very narrow tube, and each sperm cell glows as it passes through the beam of laser light.

Those that glow brighter are the female sperm cells. In a separation process called flow cytometry, a computer that reads brightness levels alters the electric charge in a steering mechanism, shunting the female cells and the male cells into different dishes.

Sperm cells that are indeterminate (not glowing enough to tell the difference) are dropped into a third container.

With cattle and horse sperm, the difference in brightness between male and female sperm cells is about 4%. In human cells, the difference is only 2.8%, so human cells are significantly more difficult to separate, Johnson said.

ACCORDING to Dr. Mervyn Jacobson, who heads XY Inc., production of the filly Call Me Madam is an important achievement.

"Selecting whether a horse will be female or male before it's even

conceived will revolutionize the horse industry," he said. There is a strong preference for different sexes in different equestrian sports, he explained.

If you're in the horse business for polo in South America, for example, he said, "they only want females; they trash the males."

Alternatively, "if you're a performance horse breeder, say for jumpers in Europe, then you want males for their greater strength and muscle mass," Jacobson said.

The economic returns from sex selection for other livestock should be even larger. In cattle, for example, dairy farmers want mostly cows to be born, rather than bulls. So if the sex ratio can be skewed to make almost all of the calves born female, the number of pregnancies needed to build a herd will be perhaps cut in half.

"We know that about 10 million dairy calves annually born male are slaughtered at birth," Jacobson said, because bulls are useless in the milk business, except for a very few needed for breeding, for sperm production.

Beef breeders prefer males, and breeding only to get big, muscular bulls could significantly improve profits for the meat industry.

"The waste from unwanted sexes in animal breeding industries is enormous," Seidel added.

So being able to select for sex should turn out to be important. In fact, Seidel is striving to get the sperm-selection technique down to a low cost, as low as \$10 per cow.

For horse breeders, however, Seidel predicted the cost will be

around \$1,000 apiece because horses require a lot more sperm for artificial insemination, and the numbers of horses that will be bred are far smaller.

AS the technology progresses, it's likely the improvements in animal physiology and human reproduction physiology will be shared back and forth between animal laboratories and human clinics. Indeed, many of the advances that have come to animal breeding were first devised by scientists working on human reproduction.

No signs of developmental problems have been seen with the sex-selected farm animals born so far, or in the baby girl born of sex selection.

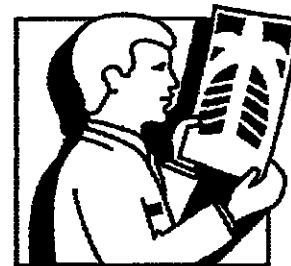
Using sperm-sexing technology for human reproduction, however, is fraught with ethical and social pitfalls. Some observers worry that natural sexual balance – the almost 50-50 ratio of males to females – may be broken.

Bio-ethicist Thomas Murray of Cleveland's Case Western Reserve University said the technology could lead "to the kind of future world where we make children by design – where we might choose not only the sex we prefer, but other characteristics such as hair color, eye color and other factors that are under genetic control."

Others see major markets for human sex selection – via sperm selection – in Asia, where there are strong traditional preferences for male babies and where, indeed, the cruel disposal of girl babies is a long-standing problem. (Newsday)

Beware of careless drug use

Health Scan



By Post Health Reporter

Bacteria aren't the only microbes to develop resistance to drugs that once destroyed them. Now a one-celled fungus that causes meningitis has overcome a widely used anti-fungal drug and for the first time in the world failed to cure an otherwise healthy patient.

This disturbing event was reported by Ichilov Hospital doc-

tors in Tel Aviv. Dr. Ruthi Orni-Wasserman reported on the case at an infectious diseases conference in California recently.

The patient, a 32-year-old man who ordinarily enjoys good health, suffered from meningitis caused by *Cryptococcus*, a yeast-like fungus that reproduces by budding rather than by making spores. Many harmless species can be found in the soil and on the skin and mucous membranes of healthy people, but others can cause meningitis.

There have been reports in the world of three immune-suppressed AIDS patients who took the anti-fungal medicine fluconazole for meningitis resulting from *Cryptococcus*; the fungus developed resistance. In rare cases, it can also cause meningitis in people without chronic diseases. Without treatment it kills, but until

now, most patients have been saved by fluconazole.

The 32-year-old patient was given another drug intravenously, and for five weeks, his clinical symptoms disappeared. He was then given fluconazole, but nine days later, the symptoms returned and were even more severe. Lab tests at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem found, to the doctors' surprise, that the fungus was resistant to the drug even though the patient had never taken it before.

The Ichilov physicians say that overuse of drugs can cause resistant strains of fungi to develop, just as superfluous use of antibiotics has done the same to dangerous bacteria. Fluconazole is widely prescribed by gynecologists and dermatologists; but careless use could lead to severe illness and even death.

Women want a 'feminine' man

By WILLIAM McCALL

PORTLAND, Oregon – Given a choice between a dewy-looking Leonardo DiCaprio and a rugged Sean Connery, women may be naturally attracted to the man with the more feminine face, researchers say.

A group of Scottish psychologists studying sexual behavior report that women tend to prefer the faces of men with more feminine features, perceiving them as gentler and more trustworthy.

The researchers, writing in the journal *Nature*, theorize that this preference is not just a 1990s concept of beauty, but hard-wired into us: Evolution has seen to it that women choose men who are likely to be more loyal mates and better fathers to their children.

"We speculate that the preference has been around for a long time," said Ian Penton-Voak of the University of St. Andrews in Fife, Scotland.

"If you look at the evolutionary record, we've moved from a more robust form to a more gracile form as a species" in overall features.

In separate experiments in Scotland and Japan, researchers created a composite "average" face for a man and a woman from about 30 digital photos. The faces then were altered at key points, including the eyes, lips, noses and eyebrows, to make them more feminine or more masculine.

Ninety-two volunteers – college students and staff members aged



Sorry, Sean (Connery, right). A study has shown women prefer softer faces like Leonardo DiCaprio's (left), perceiving them as more trustworthy.

18 to 44, including 44 women – were asked to rate the faces according to such factors as warmth, emotionality, honesty, intelligence and dominance. Both men and women preferred more feminine faces.

The researchers said the results also reflect the natural tendency to favor youth when seeking a mate. The masculine faces tended to look older to the volunteers, even though the photo composites were identical in age.

THIS expands on earlier work by Lori Roggman of Utah State University and Judith Langlois at the University of Texas, whose 1990 study suggested that a com-

puter combination of "average" facial features produces the most attractive face.

Roggman and Langlois said the new research doesn't necessarily conflict with theirs.

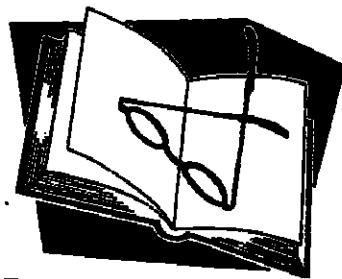
"In the real world, people would find both Leonardo DiCaprio and Sean Connery attractive. You have to use some common sense about this," Langlois commented.

Meanwhile, David Perrett, the University of St. Andrews psychologist who led the study, said men with more masculine faces should not despair.

"What counts in our situation is personality," he said. "And Sean Connery seems to have gotten by..." (Associated Press)

Deeply superficial

BOOK REVIEW



By Ken Tucker

The title piece of Jay McInerney's new book is a novella about Connor McKnight, a magazine journalist who is dating a model named Philomena Briggs and is late in turning in a profile of hot actor Chip Ralston because the superstar is avoiding him.

This tale is, in short, the stuff of superficiality, a characteristic emphasized by the way

McInerney divides his 176-page story into bite-size sections with breezy subtitles such as "What She Saw In Connor" and "Attack of the Five-Foot Salary-Man."

But as McInerney has proven time and again, he possesses the rare skill of investing superficiality with emotional and moral weight.

From his debut novel, *Bright*

Lights, *Big City* to 1996's mar-

velously panoramic *The Last of the Savages*, McInerney has traf-

ficked in the stuff of celebrity and in the self-absorbed ambi-

tions of New Yorkers and Los Angeles.

Model Behavior is his latest

variation on this, and also one of his most clever, funny and moving

books.

For Connor — "32 and two-

thirds years old and not really

happy about it (still waiting for

his life to begin" — life is a series of chic Manhattan parties inter-

persed with attempts to connect with the increasingly distant

Philomena and his likably cynical

sister, Brooke, who Connor wor-

ries is succumbing to anorexia.

In satirizing the New York

publishing world, McInerney

mixes hip real names with fictional ones — there are precise, pointed jokes at the expense of Paul Auster and Thomas Beller, for example. (McInerney also makes a nicely snide joke about the well-known writer Jay McInerney, and of course, like Connor, it is well-known that McInerney once dated a model, Marla Hanson.)

The magazine Connor works for, *Beau Monde*, sounds like a thinly disguised *Vanity Fair*, and McInerney has down-cold that tortuous process of arranging for a celebrity profile — the endless dickering and baggling with agents and editors about "accessibility": the cat-and-mouse reluctance of writer and subject to face each other with anything approaching honesty.

Beneath the wry tone and icy *apercus* (New York "is to monogamy what the channel-

changer is to linear narra-

tive"). McInerney has a more substantial tale to tell —

Connor's awareness of his failure to connect with his

sister, with his par-

ents (there's a heartbreak-

ingly funny section on their drunken Thanksgiving

visit), with true love, and with his own

best instincts. At its best, *Model*

Behavior is like a *Great*

Gatsby for the end of the

century: quietly tragic, a

comically

revel guide to the unhappiness

that leads people to pursue

worldly gain when what they

really want is love.

The remainder of *Model*

Behavior consists of eight short

stories of wildly varying quality,

ranging from the touching

("Smoke," in which a couple's

attempts to break the cigarette

habit is a metaphor for their frus-

trated marriage) to the satirical

("The Business," in which

McInerney invites another

Fitzgerald comparison with a

tale that reads uncannily like an

updated version of the latter's

Pastor's Story).

If the stories are slight, how-

ever, the title novella is supple

and sinewy; proof once more that

the underrated McInerney is no

lightweight. (The Baltimore Sun)



Dirck Hals: An Elegant Company, oils, 1616 (\$30,000-\$40,000 at Sotheby's New York)



The intrepid explorer and author Sir Richard Burton, some of whose first editions in the Hopkirk Collection are being offered at Sotheby's London this week

Antisemitism for sale

AT THE AUCTIONS

By Victor Aaronson

A century ago Paris was covered with antisemitic posters lampooning Captain Alfred Dreyfus and author Emile Zola, whose denunciation of the Dreyfus Affair, *J'accuse!*, led to Zola's temporary exile in Britain. The authors of these posters would have been amazed to know that their work would one day be auctioned in an independent Jewish State.

Yet 47 of these hate-filled hand-colored lithos are being offered at Sotheby's November 9 Judaica sale in Tel Aviv. The main series, originally entitled *Musee des Horreurs* (Freak Show), by V. Leneveu, first appeared weekly in the fall of 1899, until stopped by the Ministry of the Interior early in 1900. It depicts Dreyfus as a traitorous dragon, Zola as a pig painting France with excrement, Jean-Jaures as an elephant and Nathan Rothschild as a skullcapped dog digging for loot among the bones at Waterloo (\$60,000-\$80,000).

Another collection of 28 anti-Dreyfusard documents contains a color print of a Dreyfus Affair game board (\$4,000-\$6,000).

Other items in this sale, all of which will be on view at Sotheby's Tel Aviv between November 2-8, include the first siddur of the Ba'al Shem Tov's school, in its original binding, copied and edited by Rabbi Avraham Shimon Hachoben of Raschikow and finished in 1760, just prior to the death of the founder of the hassidic movement (\$220,000-\$280,000).

More about this sale in our next column, which will also detail the results of the sale of Israeli art at Sotheby's Tel Aviv late last week, available only after this column went to press.

A RARE and beautifully carved ivory pen box, dated to early 11th-century Cordoba and discovered

by accident in Yorkshire recently, is being offered at Sotheby's London on Thursday as part of its Islamic Week. Much to the amazement of the sellers, who had inherited their uncle's modest collection of Oriental carvings, it is expected to fetch up to £300,000. The uncle had acquired the box at a sale of the contents of the home of the first Earl of Halifax in 1947, with a bid of just under £10.

A LARGE array of "Old Master" paintings goes on sale at Sotheby's London this Wednesday and is largely comprised of modest lots described as "circle of" "follower of," "attributed to," etc.

However, did you know that the famous Frans Hals ("The Laughing Cavalier") had a younger brother who also painted? Well, in this sale is a skillfully composed oil ascribed to Dirck Hals (1591-1656) of a mixed company of drinkers listening to a female lute player, dated 1616 (\$30,000-\$40,000). It doesn't look anything like a Frans Hals. In fact, although the brothers trained together, Dirck was first influenced by Willem Buytewech. Dirck was a member of the Guild of St. Luke in Haarlem.

BOOKS ON Central Asia, Afghanistan, the Middle East and the Balkans, all from the collection of narrative historian Peter Hopkirk, will be sold at Sotheby's London on Tuesday and Wednesday. The 3,000 titles include classic works of travel, exploration, history, war and memoirs. Hopkirk himself was the author of *The Great Game* and five other volumes on imperial rivalry in Central Asia and the Middle East.

In 1996 Sotheby's sold T.E. Lawrence's own Arabic dictionary from the Hopkirk collection. It brought £5,379.

More modest are the estimates for two books by the intrepid spy and botanist Aaron Aaronson, head of the Nili spy ring helping Britain against the Turks.



Turn-of-the-century mosque, from an album being offered at Sotheby's London on Thursday

Aaronson was on his way to the 1918 Paris peace conference when his RAF aircraft disappeared in a fog over the English Channel. The first book is his illustrated *Flora Transjordanica* published in

French in Geneva in 1931 (£150-£200). The second is his *With the Turks in Palestine*, New York, 1916 (£100-£150).

More travel books and maps of the Near and Middle East and

Russia will be offered at Sotheby's London on Thursday. Two albums of photographs taken in Mecca and Egypt around 1910 should exceed their estimates of £2,000.

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A sick child at Shaare Zedek hospital in Jerusalem receives a Jerusalem Post Fund toy at Hanukkah.

To celebrate its Jubilee, the fund will be holding a charity dinner on November 17th at the Bible Lands Museum.



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To order tickets and send donations please call - 02-5376528.

Earthly Concerns



By D'vora Ben Shaul

A simple solution is just around the corner for the tens of thousands of people around the world whose drinking water is so contaminated with arsenic as to be potentially fatal.

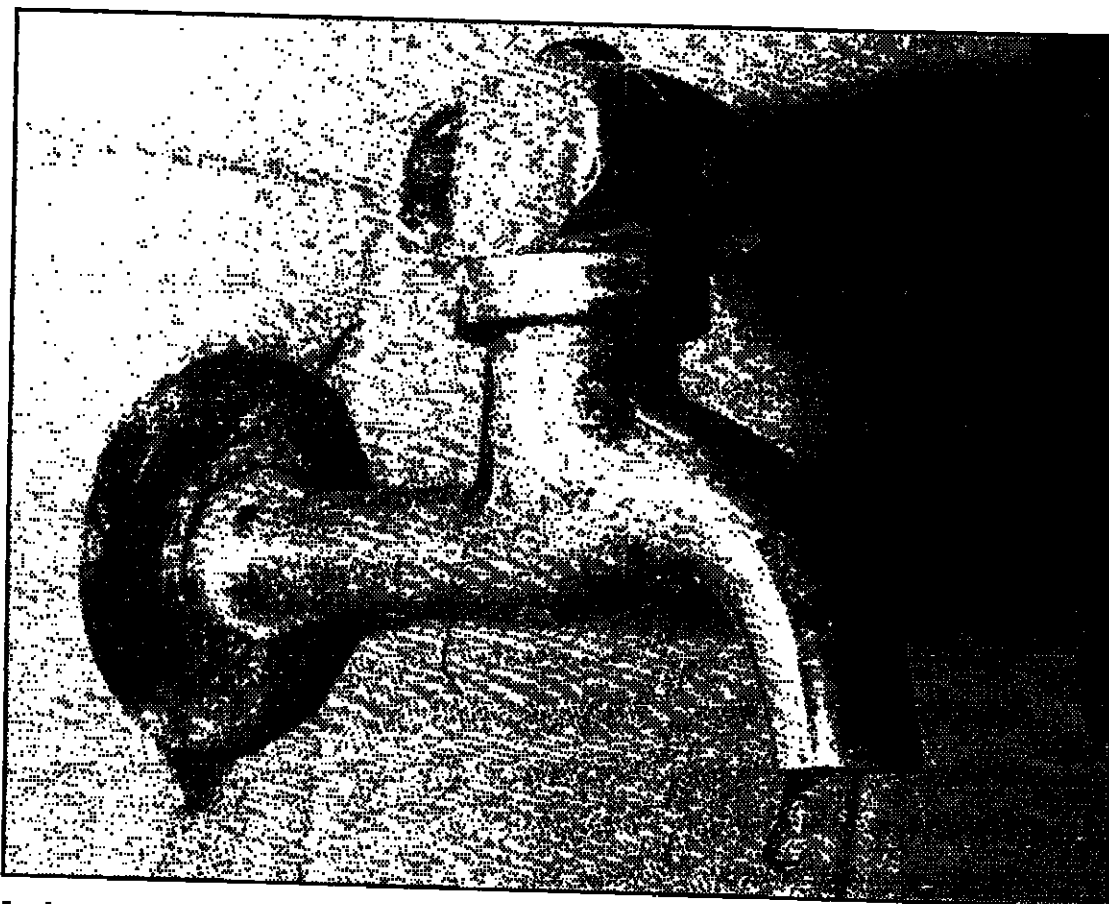
Arsenic-contaminated drinking water is a major problem in many parts of the world, particularly in India, Mexico and Thailand, but also in parts of Montana in the US and in Cornwall, Britain.

There are two major sources of contamination.

The first is caused when deep wells are drilled to tap underground resources. In the process, subterranean layers of minerals rich in arsenic are often hit inadvertently.

As a result, hundreds of thousands of people are suffering from or have already died from arsenic poisoning.

In West Bengal, at least 200,000 people have been affected. In Taiwan, at least 20,000 have been poisoned and in the Laguna



Looks pretty innocuous — but water is contaminated with arsenic in many parts of the world. Now there may be a simple solution.

area of Mexico another 20,000 cases of arsenic poisoning have been reported.

Chile has a similar number of

sick, and Inner Mongolia has 50,000 people who have fallen ill. In Cordoba, Argentina, at least 10,000 people have been exposed

to contaminated water, as have residents of Obusai, Ghana.

Arsenic pollution is also caused by run-off water from deep mine-

shafts laden with the poison. The water gains access to rivers and lakes or seeps into the aquifers. This is the main problem in Montana and in Cornwall.

Up till now, about the only way of avoiding this insidious poison has been not to drink the water.

The Indian government made some attempts at distributing chlorine tablets to persons in affected areas. Chlorine oxidizes the dangerous arsenic into a form which can easily be precipitated out of the water by the addition of iron.

But not every area was equipped to handle this technical method, and, in any case, the use of chlorine generates chloroform, itself a dangerous drug.

Now, however, researchers in Australia have found that exposure to sunlight and air rapidly oxidizes the arsenic, allowing it to be precipitated out with ease. Simple pools, dug into the earth and lined with plastic, suffice for the treatment and are within the budgetary range of even poor areas.

A pool about the size of an ordinary backyard swimming pool can treat enough water to supply the drinking and cooking needs of about 500 people a day. It costs only about \$500 to construct and lasts from four to six years.

Since a few hours' exposure to sunlight is sufficient for the process, several pools full of water can be treated per day.

ISRAELI SHARES
ABROAD

LAST CHANGE

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NASDAQ

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DOLLAR CROSSEXCHANGES (US)

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Wall Street continues powerful rebound

Wall Street

Wall Street's blue-chip stocks surged higher Friday as Thursday's powerful rebound reassured investors that the summer's lull would hold as a bottom for the market even with a troubling economic backdrop.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 167.61 points, or by 2.2 percent, to 7,899.52, pushing into positive territory for the week and just shy of this year's starting point, 7,908.25.

The rally extended Thursday's sharp rebound, which wiped out all but 9 points of a 274-point plunge and prevented a slide below the lows set on Aug. 31 and Sept. 1.

Broader stock indicators lagged the blue-chip advance again, but still posted sizable gains as big-name technology and financial shares rallied back from a week-long pounding.

The Nasdaq composite index rose 73.37, or 5.2%, to 1,492.49. The index, which is dominated by big technology names and smaller companies, had plummeted nearly 200 points, or about 12% in value, the prior four days.

The Standard and Poor's 500 rose 24.88 to 984.32, the NYSE composite index rose 9.50 to 486.70, and the American Stock Exchange composite index rose

STOCKS

3973.44 points, up 111.55 or 2.89%, a drop of 45.87 on the week.

Dow Jones 7899.52 ▲ 2.2%

FTSE 4823.4 ▲ 2.65%

Nikkei 12879.97 ▼ 1.12%

10.98 to 574.73. The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies rose 8.12 to 318.40.

In London, the FTSE 100 index of leading shares closed with a 2.65% gain with sentiment lifted by a strong performance in European markets. In Frankfurt, the German DAX, despite a strong showing on Friday, is still heading down a rocky road marked by dollar instability and ongoing global financial analysts said. The DAX-30 index closed at 3983.65 points, up 87.57 or 2.25%. In later screen-based trade the Xetra DAX index ended at

(news agencies)

Europe

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(news agencies)

Asia

Hong Kong stocks surged to a sharply higher close with property counters leading the pack as optimism spread about an early Hong Kong interest rate cut. The Hang Seng Index rallied 567.28 points, or 7.15%, to 8,506.79, a rise of 623.33 since last Wednesday.

Tokyo stocks slid 1% to end near a 13-year low as a withering dollar raised concerns big exporters would be forced to cut earnings estimates. The benchmark Nikkei average fell 146.09 points, or 1.12%, to 12,879.97, a drop of 343.72 from a week ago.

In Sydney, the Australian share market scrambled off its early lows by the finish but the modest losses belied a nervous mood as traders turned a wary eye to Wall Street. The benchmark All Ordinaries index shed 12.0 points or about 0.5% to 2,491.3. This was down 41 from last week. In Zurich, the dollar's recovery helped Swiss stocks to close higher, following a sharp drop in prices on Thursday as the dollar plummeted.

(news agencies)

Dollar slides further against yen

By SALLY JACOBSEN

NEW YORK (AP) — The dollar slid further Friday against the Japanese yen, capping a week that saw the US currency suffer its worst declines against the Japanese currency in a quarter century.

The stunning fall in the value of the dollar — off nearly 14 percent for the week as a whole — was fueled largely by panicky hedge funds moving to dump dollars in uncertain markets.

Analysts said it also reflected expectations of greater efforts by Japan to heal its critically ill economy, the world's second largest, and the gloomier outlook for the American economy.

The dollar's decline, in highly volatile trading in the \$1.5 trillion-a-day global currency markets, was showstopping.

"It was so dramatic, so stunning that people are still trying to come to terms with it," said Robert Brusca, chief financial economist at Nikko Securities Co. International Inc. in New York.

Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco President Robert Paarlous told reporters that he "never thought we would see a move of

this magnitude. I guess I'm surprised and amazed." The dollar was trading at 116.95 yen late Friday, down from 119.05 late Thursday.

It started the week at 135.85 yen, then skidded as low as 111.45 on Thursday before recovering some. Its steepest falls were on

Wednesday and Thursday.

Further declines were likely, analysts said.

"It's extremely volatile, and we haven't seen the end yet," said Guillermo Estebanetz, currency strategist at Bank of America in San Francisco.

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patash (foreign currency deposit rates)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.770	4.800	5.090
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.550	5.540	5.620
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.180	2.280	2.700
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.080	0.190	0.580
Yen (10 million yen)			

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (9.10.98)

CHECKS AND TRANSFERS	Buy	Sell	Banknotes	Buy	Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	4.8076	4.8820				4.7008
U.S. dollar	4.1768	4.2437	4.10	4.31	4.2800	
German mark	2.5586	2.5999	2.51	2.54	2.5124	
Pound sterling	7.1232	7.2381	7.00	7.34	7.2588	
French franc	0.7838	0.7759	0.76	0.79	0.8083	
Japanese yen (100)	3.5286	3.5856	3.46	3.54	3.5025	
Dutch florin	2.2707	2.3074	2.23	2.34	2.3165	
Swiss franc	3.1593	3.2103	3.10	3.26	3.2296	
Swedish krona	0.5274	0.5380	0.51	0.55	0.5383	
Norwegian krona	0.5608	0.5698	0.55	0.58	0.5717	
Danish krone	0.5728	0.5837	0.56	0.70	0.6867	
Finnish mark	0.8408	0.8545	0.82	0.87	0.8578	
Canadian dollar	2.7149	2.7587	2.68	2.80	2.7725	
Australian dollar	2.5591	2.6004	2.51	2.64	2.6127	
S. African rand	0.7151	0.7287	0.64	0.73	0.7295	
Belgian franc (10)	1.2407	1.2608	1.21	1.28	1.2656	
Austrian schilling (10)	3.6365	3.6952	3.57	3.75	3.7126	
Italian lira (1000)	2.5883	2.6301	2.54	2.67	2.6420	
Jordanian dinar	5.8898	5.9445	5.76	6.19	5.9653	
Egyptian pound			1.18	1.29	1.2587	
ECU	0.5766	0.5185			0.5172	
Irish punt	6.3856	6.4888	6.28	6.59	6.5238	
Spanish peseta (100)	3.0122	3.0608	2.96	3.11	3.0719	

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Reading between the lines...

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ISRAELI DISCOUNT BANK

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DUTY HOSPITALS

CRITICS' CHOICE

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

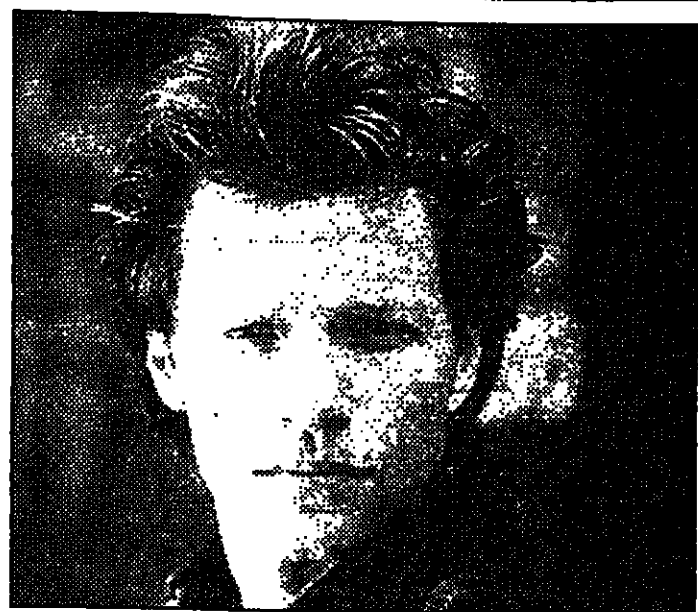
The Abu Ghosh Choral Music Festival concludes today with five exciting concerts taking place at the various churches in the serene Arab village on the outskirts of Jerusalem. Among the highlights are the Cimarosa Requiem (noon), Bach's *Coffee Cantata* (2 p.m.), a special program of French and Brazilian music (4:15 p.m.) and choral music by Villa Lobos, Casals and Bach performed by the Ramat Gan Chamber Choir under the direction of Hanna Tzur (8 p.m.).

The Early Music Workshop presents a special performance of a rarely performed oratorio by Alessandro Scarlatti, *San Giovanni Battista*. German maestro Michael Schneider leads the Jerusalem Baroque Orchestra and a vocal ensemble with soloists Michela Macfarlane, Ayala Siron, Simon Baker, Stephen Brown and Andreas Czemy. Tonight at 9 at the Henry Crown Symphony Hall in Jerusalem.

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

*** THE LEADING MAN - John Duigan directs this wry little backstage love roundelay. Set in London, the film stars rock singer Jon Bon Jovi in an adept bit of self-satire as a cocky American heartthrob, set to appear in a new British play whose author (Lambert Wilson) is as



Rock star Jon Bon Jovi is 'The Leading Man.'

two-faced, pale and tortured-looking as Bon Jovi's character seems carefree, muscular and over-sexed. The movie takes shape as a peculiar contest between the two men, who are rivals not just for the affections of several women, but who seem to be struggling for control of the spotlight and, by extension, the script - not the literal, proscenium-bound script, mind you, but the more elusive script of life. Who will get the girl? Will the ending be happy, as the American prefers, or sad, as the Englishman declares that it must be? The clever screenplay by Virginia Duigan manages to blur the lines between the drama unfolding onstage and off, and to pitch these typically theatrical questions at an almost existential level. With Anna Gallena and Thandie Newton. (Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.)

RADIO

VOICE OF MUSIC

7:10 Goretzki: Amen for mixed a cappella Chorus; Bushidoh: Prekude, Toccata and Canzons; Handel: Sonata in D for Flute and Continuo
8:05 Beethoven: Symphony no 6 "Pastorale" (La Scala PO / Gulini)
9:05 Music by the East-West Ensemble, Hovhannes, La Mazarin Ensemble and "The Other Mozart"; Jazz arrangements from The Magic Flute
12:00 Abu Ghosh Festival - Tivon Chamber Choir and others, Robert Cantley Ensemble and soloists: Shosh Lavi, Cornelia Sander, Adi Yehoshua, Peter Shiller and Yael Wagner, conductor: Vividit
Concerto for 2 Violins and Orchestra; Cimarosa: Requiem
13:00 Artist of the Week - Orchestra revolutionaries at romantic / John Eliot Gardiner; Beethoven: Piano Concerto no 5 op 73 "Emperor"
14:05 Encore - Adorn: Places and enclosures for Violin and Piano (Shaham / Erez)

15:00 The Romantic Concerto
16:00 Abu Ghosh Festival - New Vocal Ensemble, soloists, Robert Cantley Ensemble, Yael Ben-Ozer, conductor: Bach: Mass in G minor; Campa: Requiem (Israel premiere)
18:00 An hour of music by Mozart. Andante in F major K106; Eine kleine Nachtmusik K525; Clarinet Concerto K622; Aria for Soprano "Nemini meum denique" K383
19:00 Rainforest of Sounds - Jenin, Almani, Dowland, Talmann, Schubert, Mandelstam, Brahms, Ives and Arvo
20:00 Abu Ghosh Festival - Ramat Gan Chamber Choir, Robert Cantley Ensemble and soloists: Shosh Lavi, Cornelia Sander, Adi Yehoshua, Peter Shiller and Yael Wagner, conductor: Vividit
Concerto for 2 Violins and Orchestra; Cimarosa: Requiem
13:00 Artist of the Week - Orchestra revolutionaries at romantic / John Eliot Gardiner; Beethoven: Piano Concerto no 5 op 73 "Emperor"
14:05 Encore - Adorn: Places and enclosures for Violin and Piano (Shaham / Erez)

22:00 West Rock with Mark Berman
1:00 Late Night Music
BBC WORLD SERVICE (uncommented)
6:00 The World Today
7:00 The World Today
7:30 The World Today
8:00 News
8:15 Coda Breakers
8:30 News
9:00 News
9:15 Off the Shelf
9:30 The Village Chart Show
10:00 News
10:10 Pause for Thought
10:15 A Question Of Science
11:00 News
11:05 World Business Report
11:15 Record News
11:45 Sports Roundup
12:00 Newsdesk
12:30 Newsdesk
13:00 Newsdesk
13:30 Jazzmetazz
14:00 News
14:30 World Business Report

14:15 Britain Today
14:30 Seven Days
14:45 Sports Roundup
15:00 News
15:05 News
15:15 Britain Today
15:30 News
15:45 Sports Roundup
16:00 News
16:05 News
16:15 Britain Today
16:30 News
16:45 Sports Roundup
17:00 News
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21:15 Record News
21:45 Sports Roundup
12:00 Newsdesk
12:30 Newsdesk
13:00 Newsdesk
13:30 Jazzmetazz
14:00 News
14:30 World Business Report

TV

CHANNEL 1 (11)

ARABIC PROGRAMS
10:00 Denver the Last Danosau
10:45 My Great Big Daddy - a man muses about his childhood in an effort to understand his life
11:10 Gaby's Drama - Egyptian stars of the silver screen
11:45 Feast of July (1995) - an embittered young woman goes in search of the man who broke her heart and gains three admirers in the process. With Simcha Davidz and Greg Wise
12:40 Africa, High and Wild - three-part documentary
13:10 The Big Restaurant - Arabic comedy series
13:40 News in English
14:10 Caden Boy - adventure comedy about a rich boy
15:30 Good Evening
16:00 News in Arabic
16:15 Sports
HEBREW PROGRAMS
18:30 Songs We Love
20:00 News
20:15 In Happiness - songs for Simcha Davidz
21:15 Muriel's Wedding (1994) - Australian comedy drama about an ugly duckling with Tony Christie, Rachel Griffiths, Bill Hunter, and music by Abba
22:00 News
22:05 Bonnie Raiti - special featuring Bryan Adams and Jackson Browne
00:05 Verse of the Day

CHANNEL 2 (22)

7:45 Today's Programs
7:55 Song for the Day
8:00 Ruth the Galkana
8:15 Sports
8:30 Children's program
8:35 La Gendarme et Les Extraterrestes (French) - a musical village singer who found fame in Paris of the 1920s and 1930s but still lives in the village
8:45 News
9:00 News
9:15 Return of the Sheriff
9:15 Open Cards
9:25 Concert in Jeans - the Israeli Philharmonic playing Beethoven's Ninth
10:00 Double Team - a look at six basketball's greatest stars, starting with Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen
10:15 Field of Dreams (1989) - a farmer moved by a mysterious voice to make a baseball pitch on his farm and saves him from the sports giant's takeover
10:15 News
10:30 Sports Roundup
10:45 News
11:00 News
11:15 Britain Today
11:30 News
11:45 Sports Roundup
12:00 Newsdesk
12:30 Newsdesk
13:00 Newsdesk
13:30 Jazzmetazz
14:00 News
14:30 World Business Report

CHANNEL 3 (33)

16:00 Caroons
16:30 America
17:30 Arabic Panel
18:00 Garden of Thorns
18:15 News in Arabic
18:30 Auto Classics
20:00 News
20:15 The Josephine Baker Story (1991) - biopic of the famous African singer who found fame in Paris of the 1920s and 1930s but still lives in the village
20:45 News
21:15 Britain Today
21:30 News
21:45 Sports Roundup
22:00 Newsdesk
22:30 Newsdesk
23:00 Newsdesk
23:30 Jazzmetazz
24:00 News
24:30 World Business Report

CHANNEL 4

8:00 The Nanny
8:30 The Naked Truth
8:45 The Naked Truth
9:15 The Naked Truth
9:30 George and Leo
10:05 Arles
10:15 News
10:30 Sports Roundup
10:45 News
11:00 News
11:15 Britain Today
11:30 News
11:45 Sports Roundup
12:00 Newsdesk
12:30 Newsdesk
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13:30 Jazzmetazz
14:00 News
14:30 World Business Report

CHANNEL 5

8:00 The Nanny
8:30 The Naked Truth
8:45 The Naked Truth
9:15 The Naked Truth
9:30 George and Leo
10:05 Arles
10:15 News
10:30 Sports Roundup
10:45 News
11:00 News
11:15 Britain Today
11:30 News
11:45 Sports Roundup
12:00 Newsdesk
12:30 Newsdesk
13:00 Newsdesk
13:30 Jazzmetazz
14:00 News
14:30 World Business Report

CHANNEL 6

8:00 The Nanny
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9:15 The Naked Truth
9:30 George and Leo
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11:30 News
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12:00 Newsdesk
12:30 Newsdesk
13:00 Newsdesk
13:30 Jazzmetazz
14:00 News
14:30 World Business Report

S:5 Song for the Day

JORDANTV (31)

14:00 Holy Koran
14:10 Eternity Man
14:30 The World Day of My
14:45 Australian Demon
15:00 Neighbors
15:30 The Last Frontier
16:00 Thalassa
17:00 Aspetico Bay
18:00 Le Journal
18:15 Varied
18:30 News Headlines
18:35 1000 and Counts
19:00 Perspective
19:30 War Lords
19:45 What's Your Poison?
20:00 News in English
20:15 Good Company, Bad Company
21:00 News in English
21:30 Muriel's Wedding
22:00 News
22:05 Bonnie Raiti - special featuring Bryan Adams and Jackson Browne
22:00 American Football

MIDDLE EAST TV

8:00 700 Club
7:00 TV Shopping
14:00 Richard Scarry
14:30 Popeye
15:00 Westerns
15:30 Jack Hanna
16:00 CBS News
20:15 In Happiness - songs for Simcha Davidz
21:15 Muriel's Wedding (1994) - Australian comedy drama about an ugly duckling with Tony Christie, Rachel Griffiths, Bill Hunter, and music by Abba
22:00 News
22:05 Bonnie Raiti - special featuring Bryan Adams and Jackson Browne
22:00 American Football

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13:30 Jazzmetazz
14:00 News
14:30 World Business Report

Tinkerbell, Juliana Mer and Keren Mor

18:30 Local Broadcast
19:00 The Young and the Restless
19:40 Melrose Place
20:25 The Naked Truth
20:50 Just Shoot Me
21:10 Drew Carey Show
21:25 Arles
22:00 Year Lapid Live at 10
- with Orna Banai
22:30 Seinfeld (rpt)
22:45 Seinfeld
00:30 Silk Stalkings (rpt)
1:20 The New Uncatchables

MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

8:00 Romance in Manhattan (1934) - a chorus girl helps an illegal alien escape the cops in New York. With Ginger Rogers and Francis Lederer
8:30 Bad Boys Territory (1945) - a sheriff is forced to ride into an outlaw's haven, sparking off a great battle with Robert Scott
11:00 Kid Miza (1995) - children's drama about a kind-hearted boy who is put under a witch's spell and he teaches him to go to London Suite (1999)
12:35 London Suite (1999)
13:00 Arabic News
17:30 Arabic News
20:00 Candice Camera
20:45 English League Soccer
21:00 TV Shopping
1:00 Net Talking
2:00 American Football

CABLE

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PRIME TIME TV

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19:30 Songs We Love	News	Metrose Place	The Naked Truth	Witness to the Execution	Family Matters	Married with Children	Inn of the Spirits
20:00 News in Happiness	The Strength to Dream	Just Shoot Me	Arless	Yael Lapid Live at 10	Seinfeld	Ricki Lake	
21:00 Muriel's Wedding							
22:00 News	Harukh						
23:00							

zation of a gangster and is quickly assigned an important mission. With Scott Coogan
6:30 CHILDREN (6)
8:30 Urmal
8:30 The Smurfs
8:35 Judge Whitney
10:00 Enchanted Tales: Pocahontas
10:50 Baby's World
11:15 Hip Hop
11:45 Animated Hero Classics: Abraham Lincoln
12:15 Augustus the Storyteller: Stealing Beauty
12:45 Mops (2 episodes)
13:30 The Muppets
14:00 Urmal
14:30 The Smurfs
15:05 Daily Duck Movie
16:00 Baby's World
16:40 Hip Hop
17:30 Jack Hammer: The Storyteller (rpt)
17:35 Great Inventors: Isaac Newton
18:30 Wheelhouse
18:55 The Phoenix and the Carpet
19:30 Family Matters
19:35 Married with Children
20:20 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air
21:10 Beverly Hills 90210
22:00 SECOND SHOWING (6)
22:00 A professor can be a teacher and his growing child and until his son falls in love with his top star. With Ringo Starr, Jane Wyman and Ethel Barrymore
22:45 My Dear Secretary (1948, 94 mins) - a woman who is hired to be the secretary of a best-selling novelist. With Laraine Day, and Kirk Douglas
23:00 CHANNEL 8
6:00 Open University (rpt) from Sunday at 17:30
6:30 The Little Mermals (Hebrew dialogue)
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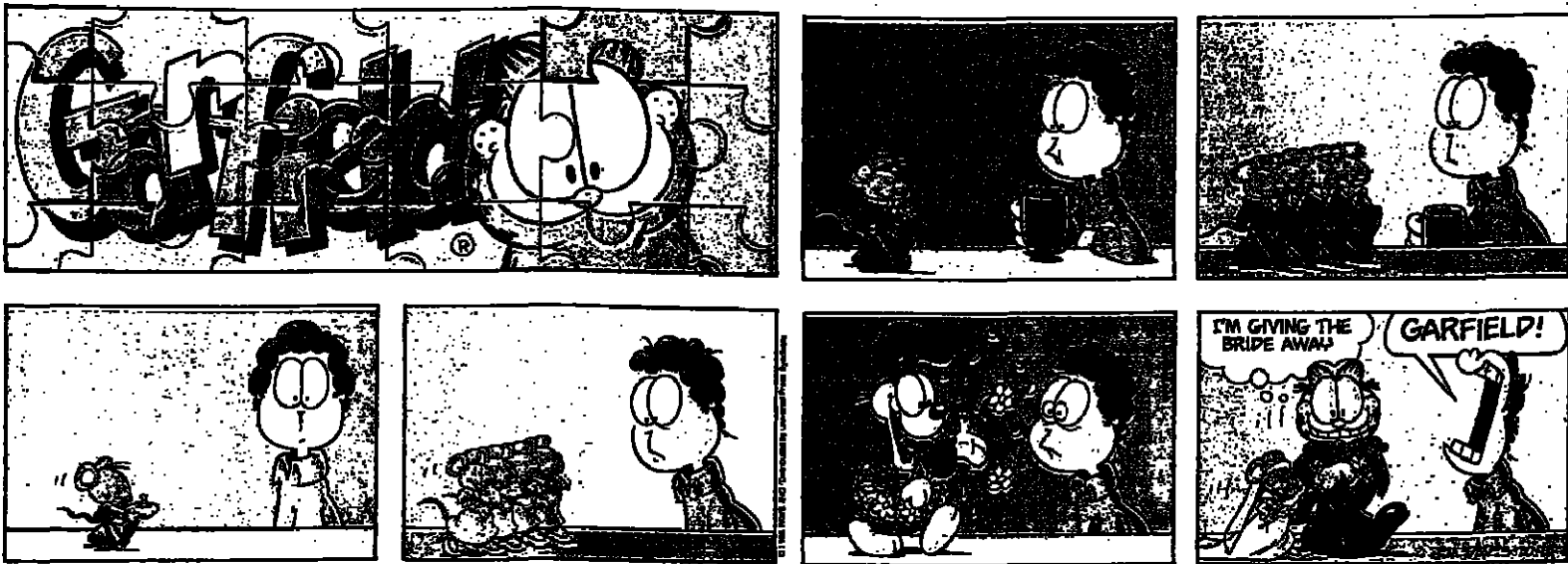
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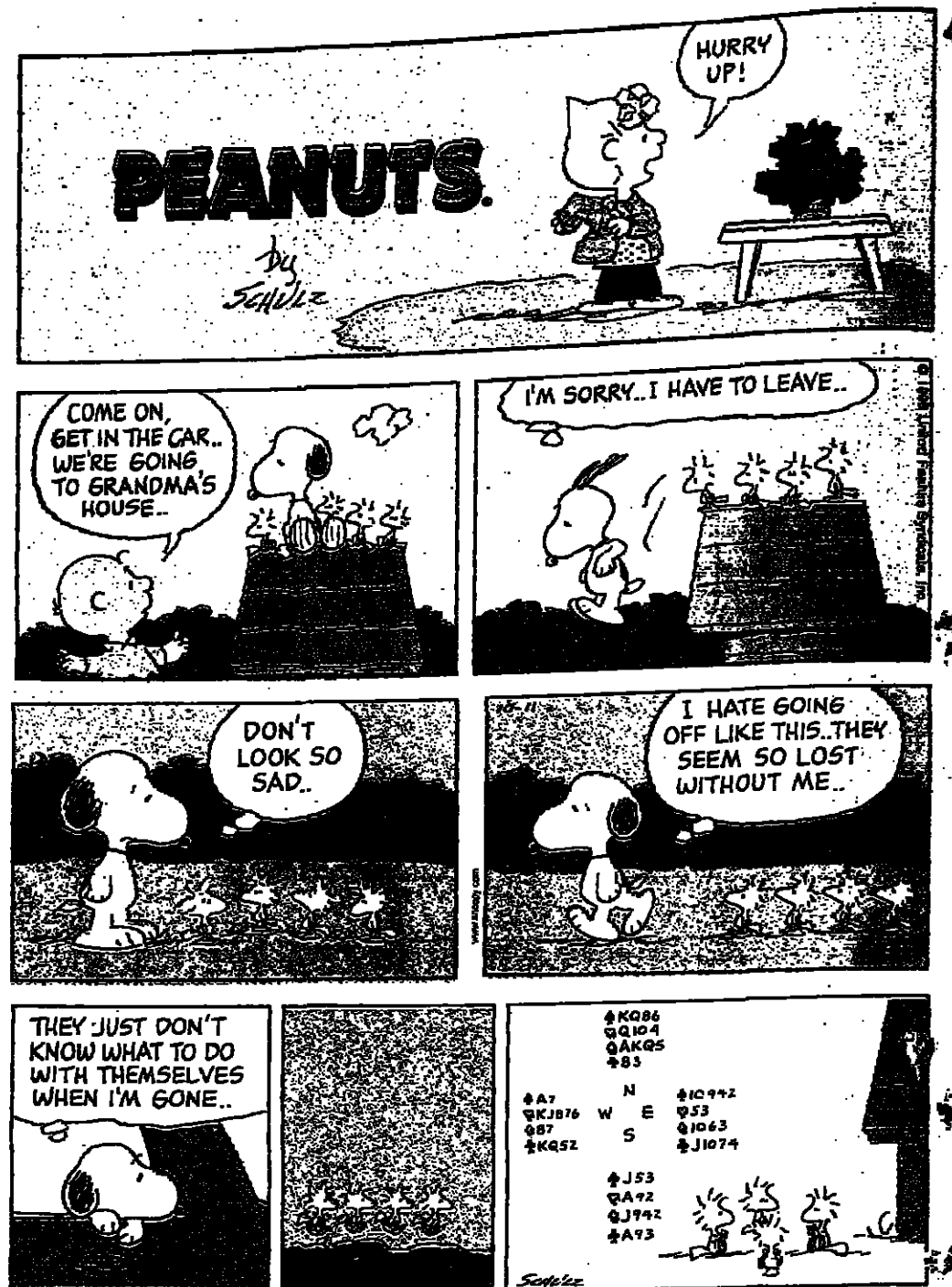
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Padres' Brown shuts out Braves

Three-hitter gives San Diego 2-0 NLCS lead

ATLANTA (AP) — Kevin Brown, the lifelong Georgia resident, picked up exactly where he left off last October, pitching another gem at Turner Field to give the San Diego Padres a 3-0 win Thursday night and a 2-0 lead in the NL championship series.

Brown, who won twice at Atlanta in the 1997 NLCS while with Florida, shut down the Braves on only three singles. Relying on his heavy sinker and a nasty fastball in the mid-90s mph, he struck out 11 and lowered his ERA this postseason to 0.38 in three starts.

Brown outdueled Tom Glavine and helped with his bat, too. He singled with two outs in the sixth inning to set up Quilvio Vera's RBI single, and also singled and scored in a two-run ninth.

"They were timely," he said. "That's one of the reasons I really enjoy the National League play. You don't always swing the bat good, but once in a blue moon, you get a chance to contribute."

The Padres traded three prospects to Florida in the offseason to get Brown, and his postseason performances against Houston and now Atlanta have been well worth it.

Brown is eligible for free agency after this season and perhaps the Braves, despite their great rotation, would be better off getting the right-hander and keeping him out of the way.

"I knew when we got him that he would make a big difference, but I didn't know he would make this kind of impact," Padres manager Bruce Bochy said. "When Kevin Brown is on, he's as tough as any pitcher in the game. Right now, he's locked in."

San Diego won without 50-homer man Greg Vaughn, out of the starting lineup for 3-4 days because of a strained left quadriceps. Game 1 star Ruben Rivera took his place, but Brown was all the Padres needed on this night.

A crowd of 43,083, about 8,000 short of a sellout, spent the last couple of innings booing the Braves' futility against Brown. "We hit two balls good all

night," Braves manager Bobby Cox said. Atlanta is appearing in its seventh straight NLCS, but never has faced an 0-2 deficit. In fact, no team has ever lost the first two games at home and come back to win a league championship series since the best-of-7 format began in 1985.

Game 3 was slated for yesterday at San Diego, with Greg Maddux pitching for the Braves against Sterling Hitchcock. The Padres are hoping for a big weekend at home to reach the World Series for only the time, the first since 1984.

"We can't feel good about being 0-2, but we have the type of club and pitching that we could easily reel off four in a row," Cox said.

With Brown and Glavine working on a cool and windy night, the forecast was for good pitching. And that's how it played out, with Brown throwing his hard stuff and Glavine tossing his off-speed deliveries. Glavine was not particularly sharp, however, walking a season-high six.

It was 0-0 until the sixth, when Chris Gomez, Brown and Vera each singled with two outs. Brown made his only mistake of the game on Vera's hit when he slid head-first and was thrown out at third.

The Padres scored two runs in the ninth off Odalis Perez. Brown's leadoff single set up RBI singles by Steve Finley and Wally Joyner.

Game 2
San Diego 000 001 002-3 11 0
Atlanta 000 000 000-0 3 1 0
R: Brown and C. Hernandez; Glavine, Roster (7), Sanchez (9), Perez (9), Lirio (9) and J. Lopez. W: K. Brown 1-0, L: Glavine 0-1.

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES
American League
Friday's result: Cleveland 6, New York 1.
Cleveland leads series 2-1.
Last night: New York at Cleveland.
Today: New York at Cleveland.
Tuesday: Cleveland at New York, if necessary.
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National League
Thursday's result: San Diego 3, Atlanta 0. San Diego leads series 2-0.
Last night: Atlanta at San Diego.
Today: Atlanta at San Diego.
Tomorrow: Atlanta at San Diego, if necessary.
Wednesday: San Diego at Atlanta, if necessary.
Thursday: San Diego at Atlanta, if necessary.



THE ENFORCER — San Diego's Kevin Brown silences the Braves' bat in 3-0 shutout win on Thursday.

SPORTS

in brief

Experts: Strawberry should survive

NEW YORK (AP) — Although Darryl Strawberry's doctors found evidence of malignancy in one of his lymph nodes after colon cancer surgery, oncology experts said the Yankee slugger's chances of survival were better than good.

"I would say the odds are still very much in his favor," said Dr. Keith Lillemoe, oncology surgeon at Johns Hopkins Colon Cancer Center.

American Cancer Society statistics show that 65 percent of black men with Strawberry's type of cancer are still alive five years after being diagnosed. The rate is slightly higher, 70 percent, for white men.

Strawberry was honored before Game 3 of the American League championship series in Cleveland on Friday night. His place in line during pregame introductions was left open and the Indians flashed his picture and good wishes on the scoreboard. "It's not unrealistic to say he'll be back playing next season," said Lillemoe, who operated on Strawberry's childhood friend, Baltimore Orioles outfielder Eric Davis, last year.

American Cancer Society statistics show that 94 percent of white men and 85 percent of black men who have local colon cancer — isolated to one area — are alive and cancer-free after five years.

Disney can take full control of Angels

ANAHEIM (AP) — Walt Disney Co. can take full control of the Anaheim Angels after last week's death of owner Gene Autry, who sold the entertainment company a 25 percent interest in the team in 1995.

The deal made Disney managing partner of the Angels and included an option to buy the remaining 75% once Autry died. He died last Friday at age 91.

A Disney spokesman said Autry's death began a 180-day period in which Disney can exercise the option. The spokesman said no decision had been made yet.

Burbank-based Disney owns the ESPN sports networks and has operated the Mighty Ducks NHL franchise in Anaheim since 1992.

Disney spent an estimated \$70 million to renovate Anaheim Stadium, which was renamed Edison International Field this year.

Autry bought the Angels for \$2.5 m prior to the team's inaugural season in 1961. The team won division titles in 1979, 1982 and 1986, but has never advanced to the World Series.

Woods sets Korean HR record

SEOUL (AP) — American Tyrone Woods, who never made it to the majors during his 11-year pro career in the U.S., broke the 6-year-old Korean single-season record by hitting his 42nd home run.

The 29-year-old did it for Seoul's OB Bears on Oct. 1 — that's McGwire's birthday, by the way — in front of 10,000 screaming fans at Chamsil Stadium.

A first baseman like McGwire, Woods was further honored when he was voted the Korean Baseball League's most valuable player this week, the foreigner to do so.

This was the first year Korea imported foreign players. Ten foreigners — seven Americans, two Dominicans and a Venezuelan — are playing in the league. Most fell short of expectations.

Judge clears Marv Albert's record

ARLINGTON (AP) — A judge cleared the record of US sportscaster Marv Albert of a misdemeanor assault conviction more than a year after he pleaded guilty to biting a former lover during a sexual romp.

Arlington Circuit Judge Benjamin N.A. Kendrick issued the order Thursday without a hearing after determining that Albert had "been of good behavior and complied with the special conditions set by the court.... The charges were dismissed."

Kendrick gave Albert no jail time and told him the assault and battery conviction would be erased if Albert got counseling and stayed out of trouble for a year.

NBC fired Albert as the network's lead NBA play-by-play announcer the day he pleaded guilty, and he resigned his job with the Madison Square Garden Network. He has since married and accepted a job doing radio play-by-play for the NBA's New York Knicks and anchoring a sports talk show.

Dokes accused of attempted murder

LAS VEGAS (AP) — An innocent plea was entered Thursday for former heavyweight champion Michael Dokes, accused of attempted murder in the beating of his fiancée.

Dokes was arrested August 31 after his fiancée went to a hospital for treatment of injuries. She told police she was beaten, sexually assaulted and held against her will by Dokes.

Police said the victim suffered several facial fractures and was so severely beaten that her face was unrecognizable. Dokes was charged with attempted murder, sexual assault and false imprisonment.

Dokes briefly held the WBA heavyweight title in 1982, but his career was derailed by drug arrests and cocaine abuse. He made a comeback and fought for the heavyweight title in 1993, but was stopped by Riddick Bowe in the first round.

He last fought last November, when he weighed 280 pounds for a bout.

TRIBE

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He was greeted with a sarcastic standing ovation in pregame introductions and before his at-bat in the first, but his single to left quickly quieted the crowd. He would later score on Bernie Williams' single.

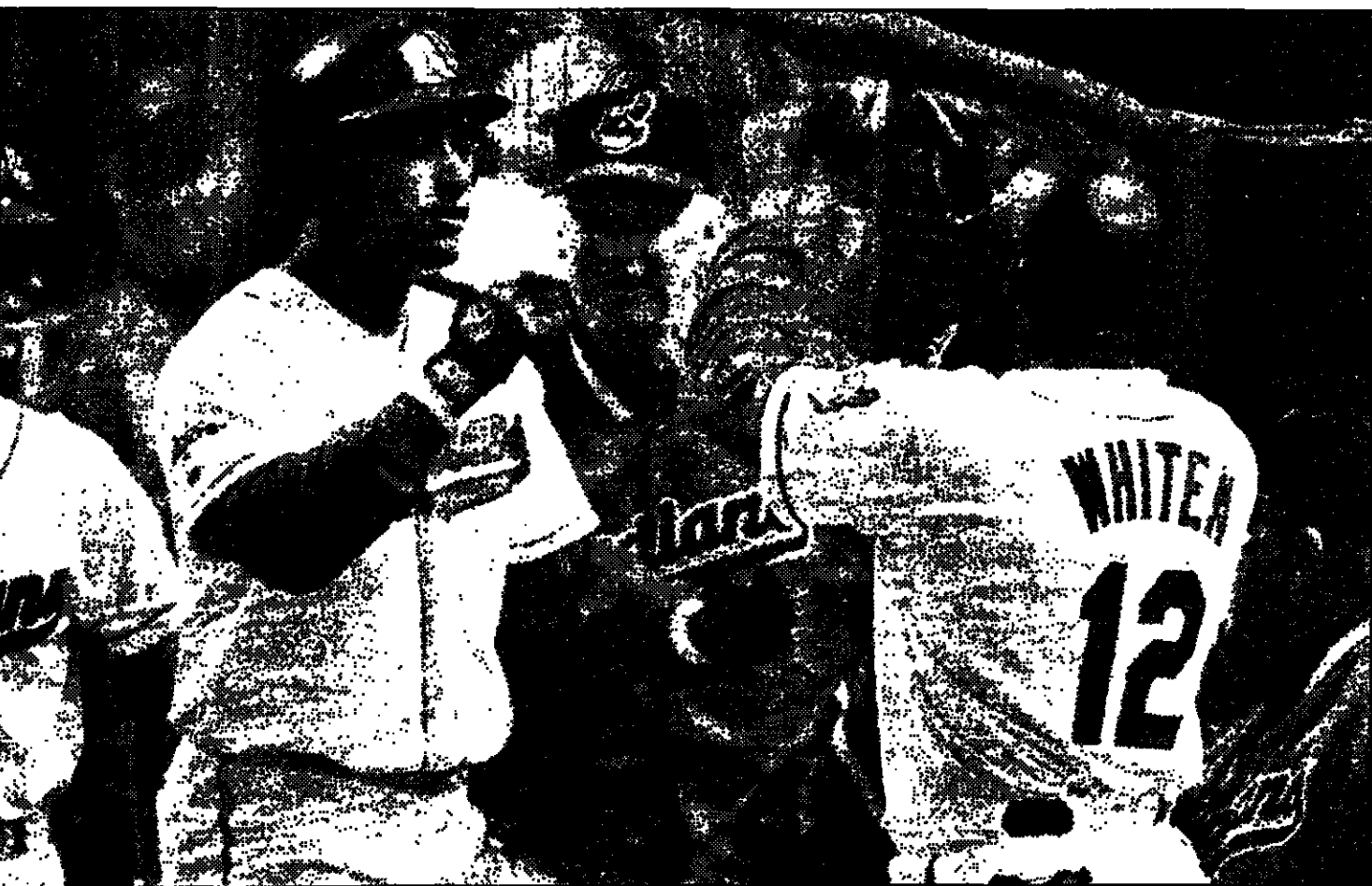
The Indians stranded two runners in the bottom of the first against Pettitte, who was continually high in the strike zone and behind in the count.

Thome made him pay for just that in the second by driving a 3-1 pitch into the Indians' bullpen to tie it 1-1. Whiten didn't give the left-hander any chance to relax by following with a double.

Whiten moved up on Sandy Alomar's grounder to the right side, and with the infield in, Wilson, who scored on a mad dash around the bases when Knoblauch decided to argue with the umpires, bounced an RBI single through the middle.

Colon, who got 16 outs on grounders, pitched the first complete game in the ALCS since Wilson Alvarez for the White Sox in 1993.

Game 3
New York 100 000 000-1 4 0
Cleveland 000 040 000-3 12 0
Pettitte, R. Hernandez (5), Stanton (7) and Grand, Posada (6); Colon and Alomar. W: Colon 1-0, L: Pettitte 0-1, IP: Cleveland, M. Ramirez (2), Thome 2 (2), Whiten (1).



DINGER PALS — Manny Ramirez of the Cleveland Indians is congratulated by Mark Whiten after hitting a fifth-inning home run against the Yankees on Friday. Whiten also homered in Indians' 6-1 win in Game 3.

Umpire performances in postseason need overhaul

Pat Gillick is sick of it. We're all sick of it. Umpires shouldn't decide postseason games. Especially not umpires whose performance during the regular season merits a harsh evaluation, not an October paycheck.

"Every time you go to the general managers' meetings, the umpires have been on the agenda, for 25 years," said Gillick, the Baltimore Orioles' outgoing GM. "It's been a problem, one that baseball has never addressed."

The hope of Gillick and others is that former Oakland GM Sandy Alderson will tackle the issue directly in his newly created position as executive vice president for baseball operations in the commissioner's office.

But in the meantime, the umpires are the story of the postseason — again.

Plate umpire Joe Brinkman lost control of Game 2 of the Division Series between Boston and Cleveland, ejecting Indians pitcher Dwight Gooden and Manager Mike Hargrove.

Plate umpire Ted Hendry was a horror show in Game 2 of the American League Championship Series on Wednesday — even before the bunt controversy erupt-

No one in Baltimore will feel sorry for the New York Yankees. From Don Mattingly's disputed homer in 1993 to Jeffrey Maier's fan interference in the '96 ALCS to Scott Brosius' phantom out on Jeff Reboulet on July 4, the Orioles repeatedly have been jobbed at Yankee Stadium, and it's about time things started evening out.

No one should feel sorry for the Yankees, either. Not when Chuck Knoblauch — "Chuck Brainlauch" on the New York Post back page — committed the cardinal sin of arguing with an umpire before play was dead. And not when the Yankees blew the game long before Hendry blew the interference call on Travis Fryman.

Orioles catcher Lenny Webster knows all about the horrors that await when a member of the Indians squares to bunt in October, but the Yankees were 1 for 11 with runners in scoring position Wednesday, and failed to score in the ninth after advancing a runner to second with none out.

The Orioles were 0 for 9 with runners in scoring position in Game 1 of the '96 ALCS. The Yankees' first two runs in that 5-4, 11-inning victory resulted from

Benitez walked Darryl Strawberry with two outs to force in another run. But no one remembers.

All anyone remembers is the ump's specifically, right-field umpire Rich Garcia, who blew the fan-interference call on Derek Jeter's game-tying, eighth-inning homer off Benitez.

And now Hendry.

Yankees Owner George Steinbrenner, who was fined for his criticism of the umpiring, said "I just say, let's get this umpiring organized. Get it under Major League Baseball. Not two sets of rules, two sets of strike zones. And let's get the good umpires. When we're in the playoffs, let's go with the best we've got, not on a seniority basis. That's crazy. Go on a merit basis."

Said Gillick: "It's back to the same old story — you've got to have a real stringent review process. They've got to be reviewed constantly. If there are problems with umpires, if they continue to make mistakes, the lower-rated guys have got to be gone."

Marty Springstead, the AL's

MY CALL

ROSEBORO

Roseboro and Billy Sample submitting quarterly reports during the regular season.

But Springstead acknowledged that seniority is a factor in determining which umpires work the postseason.

"It's a combination of both," Springstead said. "It's merit, but you have to spread it out. You can't put all your horses in one event." Why not? "I don't think they'd want to — too much pressure," Springstead said. "That's a union thing that would have to be worked out. That's all in their contract."

Ah yes, the umpires union.

A group with more clout than Kenneth Starr, for reasons no one quite understands.

Springstead said the AL uses 24 umpires for the All-Star Game and postseason. The three selected for the World Series also work the Division Series, but, otherwise, nobody gets more than one round.

Thus, the World Series umpires are held out of the LCS — and in the NL, the Division Series, too.

avoid using umpires in back-to-back championship series. Eventually, almost everyone gets a turn.

No other sport applies such backward standards to the selection of its postseason officials. But no other sport lives in fear of Richie Phillips, head of the umpires union.

Major League Baseball should have confronted the umpires two years ago, called their bluff when they threatened to boycott the postseason over Roberto Alomar, then fired them for violating their union contracts.

Instead, MLB threatened to seek an injunction to force the umpires to work, and reached a temporary settlement to avoid the embarrassment of replacement umpires in the postseason.

Really, what would have been so horrible about that? Many of the umpires are good people and good at their jobs, but as a group, they're more inconsistent, more arrogant, more confrontational than ever.

Hendry's strike zone Wednesday started in the Bronx and appeared to extend to New Jersey and Connecticut.

There are some things that can be done, and baseball needs to do

Gillick said.

Such as? "Baseball has never trained its officials. It lets Joe Brinkman or Harry Wendelstedt run these umpire schools and train its officials."

That's stupid," Gillick said. "We have the right to train our own officials, train them the way we want them trained. I don't know what the big deal is. We've got all these spring-training complexes. Why couldn't one or two of them be utilized to run umpiring programs to train our employees?"

He also said that MLB should purge aging, ineffective umpires. "It's just like in a big company when you offer early retirement. You give them a couple of years (salary), get them out of there," Gillick said.

And younger umpires who are deemed incompetent? Document their failures, put them on notice, then try to fire them — even if it means arbitration and reaching a settlement, Gillick said.

"You've got to play a little hardball — nice hardball. Some guys we've got continually keep screwing up." Gillick is sick of it. We all are.

The umpires aren't supposed to

Steinbrenner fined by AL

CLEVELAND (AP) — Owner George Steinbrenner was fined by the American League on Friday for his criticism of the umpires after a disputed play that led to Cleveland's 4-1 victory over New York in Game 2 of the ALCS series.

The Yankees owner was critical of what he described as "atrocious" calls by home plate umpire Ted Hendry on Wednesday night. The amount of the fine was not disclosed.

"My concern was inappropriate comments that impact the game and the profession of umpiring," AL president Gene Budig said.

A day earlier, the Yankees were fined \$25,000 by the AL for violating media access regulations issued by the commissioner's office.

Steinbrenner said: "He has to do what he has to do. ... He has that right, doesn't he?" Steinbrenner had said after Wednesday's game that it was "too bad this great game had to

